A NEW DISPLAY OF THE Beauties of England; OR

A Deſcription of the moſt Elegant or Magnificent

PUPLIC EDIFICES, ROYAL PALACES,

NOBLEMEN's and GENTLEMEN's SEATS,

and other CURIOSITIES, *Natural or Artificial*;

in the different parts of the Kingdom.

ADORNED WITH

a Variety of COPPER PLATE CUTS, *neatly Engraved.*

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

VOLUME the FIRST.

The THIRD EDITION.

LONDON:

Printed for R. GOADBY; and Sold by J. TOWERS, at No. 111, in Fore Street, near Cripplegate; & R. BALDWIN, No. 47, in Pater-noſter Row.

MDCCLXXVI.

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OF THE

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In England's *happy Iſle we ſee diſplay'd,*
The Charms of Nature, and the Force of Art;
Our Hills and Dales with Verdure all array'd,
All that can pleaſe the Eye, or chear the Heart.

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M,DCC,LXXVI.

PREFACE.

AS the principal design of this Work was to give descriptions of the most elegant and magnificent Public Edifices, Royal Palaces, and Noblemens and Gentlemens Seats in England, it was judged not improper to begin with that part of the Kingdom, which is within the distance of about twenty miles round London, where a greater

greater number of theſe are to be found, than in any other diſtrict of the ſame extent. And as the greateſt part of our firſt Volume is employed in deſcribing this diſtrict, it was found moſt convenient not to attend to the diviſion of the Counties. But in the ſecond Volume, wherein remoter parts of the Kingdom are given an account of, the places deſcribed have been exactly claſſed under their reſpective Counties.

A deſcription of a greater number of Noblemens and Gentlemens Seats is to be found in this Work, than can be met with in any other publication; as this was

our

our capital object. And of these a very unusual number of engraved views are given. But in order to render the Work more compleat, some account is also given of all the cities and market-towns in the kingdom, LONDON excepted, a description of which could not have been comprehended within our intended limits.

It is presumed, that this Work will be found an agreeable companion for those who may occasionally visit different parts of England, in order to take a view of the many fine palaces and seats with which this kingdom abounds. And those who may not have an oppor-

opportunity of perſonally viſiting thoſe delightful retreats, may yet receive no inconſiderable degree of ſatisfaction, from thoſe accounts and views of them, which are given in this Work.

A NEW DISPLAY OF THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND.

NOTHING is more natural than a desire of being acquainted with whatever is most beautiful, remarkable, or curious in our own country. If we are pleasingly gratified with descriptions of foreign countries, surely the curiosities of our native land cannot be less worthy our attention. ENGLAND is not only endeared to us by our connection with it, but has a just claim to our regard from the great variety of natural and artificial curiosities with which it abounds. It is the favourite residence of plenty and of freedom, of wealth, and of commerce; and the many advantages and excellencies with which nature has liberally endowed it, have been aided by the indefatigable industry of the inhabitant; which is sufficiently evinced by the high degree of cultivation which appears in almost every part of the kingdom.

Though the air of England is for the most part thick and heavy, and the weather very precarious, and often extremely

foggy; yet even this variety of weather is attended with conſiderable advantages. For, in the firſt place, it ſecures the iſland from thoſe extremes of heat and cold, to which other nations, though within the ſame degree of latitude, are annually expoſed; and it is in a great meaſure owing to this moderation of the climate, that the inhabitants of this iſland live to as great an age as in any part of Europe whatſoever. And that perpetual verdure for which England is remarkable, and for which it is greatly admired by all foreigners who come hither, is occaſioned by the refreſhing ſhowers and the warm vapours of the ſea.

With reſpect to the climate of England, there is an obſervation concerning it that was made by King Charles the Second, as we are informed by Sir William Temple, that deſerves to be remembered. 'I muſt needs add one thing (ſays 'Sir William) in favour of our climate, which I heard the King 'ſay, and I thought new and right, and truly like a King of 'England, that loved and eſteemed his own country. 'Twas 'in reply to ſome company, that were reviling our climate, 'and extolling thoſe of Italy and Spain, or at leaſt of France. 'He ſaid, "He thought that that was the beſt climate, where "he could be abroad in the air with pleaſure, or at leaſt with-"out trouble or inconvenience, the moſt days of the year, and "the moſt hours of the day; and this he thought he could be "in England, more than in any country he knew in Europe." 'And I believe (adds Sir William) it is true, not only of the 'hot and the cold, but even among our neighbours in France 'and the Low Countries themſelves, where the heats or the 'colds, and changes of ſeaſons, are leſs treatable than they are 'with us."

It has been juſtly obſerved, that no country in the world can equal the cultivated parts of England for the great number of beautiful ſcenes with which it is adorned. The variety of high-lands and low-lands, the former gently ſwelling, and both of them forming proſpects equal to the moſt luxuriant imagination, the corn and meadow ground, the intermixtures of incloſures and plantations, the noble ſeats, comfortable houſes, chearful villages, and well-ſtocked farms, often riſing in the neighbourhood of populous towns and cities, decorated with the moſt vivid colours of nature, afford an inexpreſſible pleaſure.

Before we proceed to treat of the more diſtant parts of the kingdom, we ſhall give ſome account of the palaces, moſt elegant



The Garden Front of the Royal Palace at Kew.

gant country ſeats, and other curioſities, within the diſtance of about twenty miles round London. And we ſhall begin with KEW, as that place is at preſent honoured with being the reſidence of his Majeſty.

The Palace of KEW is a neat, plain building; but by no means ſuitable to the dignity of a King of Great Britain. The principal court of the palace is in the middle; the ſtable court on the left hand; and the kitchen courts on the right. As you enter the houſe from the principal court, a veſtibule leads to the great hall, which occupies two ſtories in height, and receives its light from windows in the upper ſtory. It is furniſhed with full-length portraits, repreſenting King William III. Queen Mary, the preſent King of Pruſſia, the late Emperor of Germany, the preſent hereditary Prince of Brunſwick, the late Elector of Cologne, and that famous Stateſman Lord Treaſurer Burleigh. Beſides which there is a very good hunting piece by Mr. Wootton, wherein are repreſented the late Frederick Prince of Wales, Lord Baltimore, Lord Cholmondeley, Lord Boſton, Colonel Pelham, and ſeveral of his Royal Highneſs's attendants. In this room are likewiſe two large vaſes of ſtatuary marble, on which are cut in baſſo relievo the four ſeaſons of the year.

From the hall a paſſage leads to the garden, and on the right hand of this paſſage is their Majeſties apartment, conſiſting of an anti-chamber, a drawing-room, a cabinet, and a gallery, with waiting rooms, and other conveniencies for attendants. The anti-chamber is hung with tapeſtry, and over the doors are two portraits, the one of the late Lord Cobham, the other of the late Earl of Cheſterfield.

The drawing room is likewiſe hung with tapeſtry. Over the doors are the portraits of King George I. and the late Prince of Wales, father to his preſent Majeſty. There is alſo another picture in the room with three heads, being the portraits of the late Princeſs of Orange, and the Princeſſes Amelia and Caroline.

The cabinet is furniſhed with pannels of Japan; the cieling is gilt; which, together with the chimney piece, was deſigned by the late ingenious Mr. Kent. The gallery, with all its furniture, is entirely executed from deſigns of the ſame artiſt. The colour of the wainſcotting is blue, and the ornaments are gilt. Over the chimney is a portrait of the late Princeſs of Orange, in a riding-dreſs; and on each ſide of it is a very fine picture by the celebrated Mr. Wootton; the

one repreſenting a ſtag at bay, and the other a return from the chace. The ſcene of both is Windſor foreſt, and the perſons repreſented are the late Prince of Wales, the late Duke of Marlborough, Mr. Spencer, the Duke of Chandois, the Marquis of Powis, Lord Jerſey, and ſeveral other noblemen, gentlemen, and attendants.

On the left of the paſſage which leads to the garden, are the apartments of the bed-chamber-women. In their drawing-room is a very large collection of Portraits of illuſtrious perſons of both ſexes; none of them very finely painted, yet curious and very entertaining. The cieling is executed from a deſign of Mr. Kent's; as are likewiſe the cieling, chimney piece, and all other parts of their dining room.

The cieling of the great ſtaircaſe was alſo deſigned by Mr. Kent. The principal floor is diſtributed into one ſtate-apartment for their Majeſties, and into lodging-rooms for their children and attendants. The ſtate-apartment conſiſts of a gallery, a drawing-room, a dreſſing-room, an anti-chamber, a bed-room, and cloſets.

The walls of the gallery are adorned with groteſque paintings, and children in theatrical dreſſes, by the late Mr. John Ellis. The chimney-piece and all the furniture, are from deſigns of Mr. Kent; and on the piers between the windows are four large painted looking glaſſes from China.

The cieling of the drawing-room was deſigned and painted by Mr. Kent, with groteſque ornaments, in party colours and gold. The center compartment repreſents the ſtory of Leda. The room is hung with green ſilk, and furniſhed with a very pretty collection of pictures, by Domenichino, Paul Veroneſe, Albano, Claude Lorrain, Cornelius Janſen, &c.

The Dreſſing Room is richly furniſhed with Japan cabinets, and a great variety of curious works in Dreſden porcelain, amber, ivory, &c. and there are alſo in it two large pictures, the one by Dupan, repreſenting the children of the royal family at play; and the other, the late Princeſs Dowager of Wales, with his preſent Majeſty, the late Duke of York, and the Princeſs of Brunſwick, all in their infancy, attended by Lord Boſton, Lady Archibald Hamilton, and Mrs. Herbert.

Their Majeſties bed-chamber is hung with tapeſtry; the cieling and chimney-piece were deſigned by Mr. Kent. The anti-chamber and cloſets contain nothing remarkable, excepting an hygrometer of a very curious conſtruction, invented and executed by the ingenious Mr. Pullein, one of the Chaplains to the late Princeſs Dowager.

The

The GARDENS OF KEW are not very advantageouſly circumſtanced with reſpect to their ſituation, as it is low, and commands no proſpect Originally the ground was one continued dead flat; the ſoil was in general barren, and without either wood or water. With ſo many diſadvantages, it was not eaſy to produce any thing even tolerable in gardening. But with great expence and labour, all difficulties were at length overcome; and what was once a deſart, is now a kind of Eden. And the judgment with which art hath been employed to ſupply the defects of nature, and to cover its deformities, hath excited general admiration.

On entering the garden from the palace, and turning towards the left hand, the firſt building which appears is *the Orangery, or Green Houſe*; which was deſigned by Mr. Chambers, (now Sir William Chambers) and built under his inſpection in the year 1761. The front extends one hundred and forty-five feet; the room is one hundred and forty-two feet long, thirty-ſix wide, and twenty-five high In the back ſhed are two furnaces to heat flues, laid under the pavement of the orangery, which are found very uſeful, and indeed very neceſſary, in times of hard froſt.

What is called *the Temple of the Sun*, is ſituated in an open grove near the orangery, and in the way to the phyſic garden. Its figure is of the circular peripteros kind, but without an attic; and there is a particularity in the entablature, of which the hint is taken from one of the temples of Balbec. The order is Corinthian, the columns fluted, and the entablature fully enriched. Over each column on the frize are baſſo relievos, repreſenting lyres and ſprigs of laurel; and round the upper part of the cell are ſuſpended feſtoons of fruits and flowers. The inſide of the cell forms a ſaloon richly furniſhed and gilt. In the center of its cove is repreſented the ſun, and on the frize, in twelve compartments, ſurrounded with branches of laurel, are repreſented the ſigns of the zodiac in baſſo relievo. This building was alſo erected by Sir William Chambers.

The *Phyſic or Exotic Garden* contains a prodigious variety of curious plants collected with great diligence and judgment by the late Dr. Hill; whoſe abilities as a Botaniſt are well known. Several ſtoves have been built for the cultivation of theſe plants; and, amongſt others, one very large one, its extent from eaſt to weſt being one hundred and fourteen feet.

Contiguous to the exotic garden is *the Flower Garden*; of which the principal entrance, with a ſtand on each ſide of it for rare flowers, forms one end. The two ſides are encloſed with

with high trees, and the end facing the principal entrance is occupied by an aviary of a vaſt depth, in which is kept a numerous collection of birds both foreign and domeſtic. The parterre is divided by walks into a great numer of beds, in which all kinds of beautiful flowers are to be ſeen, during the greateſt part of the year; and in its center is a baſon of water ſtocked with gold fiſh.

From the flower-garden a ſhort winding walk leads to *the Menagerie*. It is of an oval figure; the center is occupied by a large baſon of water, ſurrounded by a walk; and the whole is encloſed by a range of pens, or large cages, in which are kept great numbers of Chineſe and Tartarian pheaſants, beſides many ſorts of other large exotic birds. The baſon is ſtocked with ſuch water-fowl as are too tender to live on the lake, and in the middle of it ſtands a pavilion of an irregular octagon plan, deſigned by Sir William Chambers, in imitation of a Chineſe open Ting, and built in the year 1763.

Near the Menagerie ſtands the *Temple of Bellona*, which was alſo erected by Sir William Chambers. And paſſing from the Menagerie towards the lake, in a retired ſolitary walk on the left, is the *Temple of the God Pan*, which is of the monopteros kind, but cloſed on the ſide towards the thicket, in order to make it ſerve for a ſeat. It is of the Doric order; the profile imitated from that of the theatre of Marcellus at Rome. Not far from hence on an eminence, ſtands *the Temple of Eolus*. The order is compoſite, in which the Doric is predominant. Within the columns is a large ſemicircular nich, ſerving as a ſeat, which revolves on a pivot, and may with great eaſe be turned by one hand to any expoſition, notwithſtanding its ſize. The *Temple of Solitude* is ſituated very near the ſouth front of the palace.

At the head of the lake, and near the temple of Eolus, ſtands a Chineſe octagon building of two ſtories, built many years ago; and which is commonly called the *Houſe of Confucius*. The lower ſtory conſiſts of one room and two cloſets, and the upper ſtory is one little ſaloon, commanding a very pleaſant proſpect over the lake and gardens. Its walls and cieling are painted with groteſque ornaments, and little hiſtorical ſubjects relating to Confucius, with ſeveral tranſactions of the Chriſtian miſſions in China. In a thicket near the houſe of Confucius, is erected the engine which ſupplies the lake and baſons in the gardens with water. It was contrived by Mr. Smeaton, and executed under his direction in the year 1761.



A View of the Lake & Island seen from the Lawn with a distant prospect of the Temples of Arethusa and Victory, & the great Pagoda in the Royal Gardens at Kew.

It anſwers perfectly well, raiſing by means of two horſes, upwards of 3600 hogſheads of water in twelve hours.

From the Houſe of Confucius, a covered cloſe walk leads to a grove, where is placed a ſemi-octagon ſeat. A winding walk, on the right hand of the grove, leads to an open plain, on one ſide of which, backed with thickets, on a riſing ground, is placed a Corinthian colonnade, deſigned and built by Sir William Chambers in the year 1760, and called the *Theatre of Auguſta*.

The next building which offers itſelf to view, is the *Temple of Victory*. It ſtands on a hill, and was built in commemoration of the ſignal victory obtained, on the 1ſt of Auguſt, 1759, at Minden, by the allied army, under Prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick, over the French army, commanded by the Marſhal de Contades. The cell, which commands a pretty proſpect towards Richmond, and likewiſe over Middleſex, is neatly finiſhed with ſtucco ornaments. Thoſe in the cieling repreſent ſtandards, and other French trophies.

The upper part of the garden compoſes a large wilderneſs, on the border of which ſtands a Moreſque building, commonly called *The Alhambra*. This conſiſts of a ſaloon, fronted with a portico of coupled columns, and crowned with a lanthorn.

On an open ſpace, near the center of the ſame wilderneſs, is erected the Tower commonly called *The great Pagoda*. This was begun under Sir William Chambers's direction, in the autumn of the year 1761, and covered in the ſpring of the year 1762. The deſign is an imitation of the Eaſtern temples, and particularly of the Chineſe *Taa*. The baſe is a regular octagon, forty-nine feet in diameter; and the ſuperſtructure is likewiſe a regular octagon in its plan, and its elevation compoſed of ten priſms, which form the ten different ſtories of the building. The loweſt of theſe is twenty-ſix feet in diameter, excluſive of the portico which ſurrounds it, and eighteen feet high; the ſecond is twenty-five feet in diameter, and ſeventeen feet high; and all the reſt diminiſh in diameter and height, in the ſame arithmetical proportion, to the ninth ſtory, which is eighteen feet in diameter, and ten feet high. The tenth ſtory is ſeventeen feet in diameter, and, with the covering, twenty feet high; and the finiſhing on the top is ſeventeen feet high: ſo that the whole ſtructure, from the baſe to the top of the fleuron, is one hundred and ſixty-three feet. Each ſtory finiſhes with a projecting roof, after the Chineſe manner, covered with plates of varniſhed iron of different colours; and round each

of them there is a gallery encloſed with a rail. All the angles of the roof are adorned with large dragons, being eighty in number, covered with a kind of thin glaſs of various colours, which produces a moſt dazzling reflexion; and the whole ornament at the top is double gilt. The walls of the building are compoſed of very hard bricks; the outſide of well-coloured and well matched grey-ſtocks, neatly laid, and with ſuch care, that there is not the leaſt crack or fracture in the whole ſtructure, notwithſtanding its great height, and the expedition with which it was built. The ſtair-caſe, which leads to the different ſtories, is in the center of the building.

Notwithſtanding the ground on which this ſtructure is erected lies low, we have, on a clear day, a very fine proſpect from the top of this elegant building; whence we may ſee northward, the hills of Harrow, Hampſtead, and Highgate, ſouthward to Banſtead-downs and Epſom, taking in all that fine proſpect of the county of Surrey, including Eſher, Epſom-courſe, Wimbleton, Richmond park, Putney heath, with the whole county away to Carſhalton and Croydon, &c. Eaſtward we have a fine view of the river up to London, with the beautiful ſeats and pleaſant villages on each ſide, as far as Blackheath and Shooter's hill, which bound the proſpect on this ſide. In the ſame manner the Thames affords a fine proſpect weſtward, of Hampton-court, and all the delightful country ſeats and villages along the river to Maidenhead-bridge, Windſor, &c. &c. In ſhort, there is not, perhaps, another place in the world, from which ſo beautiful, populous, and well cultivated a ſpot can be ſeen, as from the top of the Pagoda in Kew-gardens.

Near the great Pagoda, on a riſing ground, backed with thickets, ſtands *The Moſque*; which was deſigned and built by Sir William Chambers in the year 1761. The body of the building conſiſts of an octagon ſaloon in the center, flanked with two cabinets, finiſhing with one large dome, and two ſmall ones. The large dome is crowned with a creſcent, and its upright part contains twenty-eight little arches, which give light to the ſaloon. On the three front ſides of the central octagon are three doors, giving entrance to the building; over each of which there is an Arabic inſcription, which may be thus tranſlated:

"Let there be no force in religion."
"There is but one God."
"Do not make any image or repreſentation of the Deity."

The minarets are placed at each end of the principal buildings.

ing. In the deſign of them, as well as in the whole exterior decoration of the building itſelf, Sir William Chambers has endeavoured to collect the principal particularities of the Turkiſh architecture. With regard to the interior decoration, he has not ſo ſcrupulouſly adhered to their ſtyle in building, but has aimed at ſomething uncommon, and at the ſame time pleaſing. At the eight angles of the room are palm trees modelled in ſtucco, painted and varniſhed with various hues of green, in imitation of nature; which at the top ſpread, and ſupport the dome, repreſented as formed of reeds, bound together with ribbons of ſilk. The cove is ſuppoſed to be perforated, and a brilliant ſunny ſky appears, finely painted by Mr. Wilſon of Covent-garden, the celebrated landſcape painter.

In the way from the Moſque towards the palace, there is a Gothic building, deſigned by Mr. Muntz, the front repreſenting a cathedral. The *Gallery of Antiques* was deſigned by Chambers, and executed in the year 1757. Continuing your way from the laſt mentioned building towards the palace, near the banks of the lake, ſtands the *Temple of Arethuſa*, a ſmall Ionic building of four columns. Near it there is a bridge thrown over a narrow chanel of water, and leading to the iſland in the lake. The deſign is, in a great meaſure, taken from one of Palladio's wooden bridges. It was erected in one night.

In various parts of the garden are erected covered ſeats; and beſides the other buildings that have been mentioned, there is alſo the *Temple of Peace*. This was erected in commemoration of the late peace, which was as much applauded by the partizans of the court, as it was execrated by the bulk of the nation. The portico is Hexaſtyle Ionic; the columns fluted; the entablature enriched, and the tympan of the pediment adorned with baſſo relievos. The cell is in the form of a Latin croſs, the ends of which are cloſed with ſemi-circular ſweeps, wherein are niches for ſtatues. It is richly finiſhed with ſtucco ornaments, alluſive to the occaſion on which it was erected. But in truth this edifice had better have been omitted, as it is not very well adapted to excite any pleaſing ſenſations; but is rather calculated to fill the breaſt of every Engliſhman who views it with diſguſt and indignation. The unparalleled ſeries of victories and ſucceſſes which attended the Britiſh arms during the laſt war, afforded the moſt glorious opportunity that ever offered, of humbling the Houſe of Bourbon, and concluding ſuch a treaty of peace as would have been an immortal honour to this nation. But in order to promote ſome private views of thoſe in

power, an ill-judged and inadequate peace was precipi tated, to the great joy of our enemies, and the extreme regret of every Engliſhman who had a ſincere regard for the honour and intereſt of his native country. However, an edifice has been erected at Kew to commemorate this treaty of peace, though, from the circumſtances under which it was concluded, it will for ever reflect diſgrace on every Britiſh miniſter who was concerned in its negociation.

The *Ruin* at Kew was deſigned and built by Sir William Chambers in the year 1759, in order to make a paſſage for carriages and cattle over one of the principal walks of the garden. His intention was to imitate a Roman antiquity, built of brick, with an incruſtation of ſtone. The deſign is a triumphal arch, originally with three apertures, but two of them now cloſed up, and converted into rooms, to which you enter by doors made in the ſides of the principal arch. Both the fronts of the ſtructure are ruſtic. The north front is confined between rocks, overgrown with briars and other wild plants, and topped with thickets, amongſt which are ſeen ſeveral columns, and other fragments of buildings; and at a little diſtance beyond the arch is ſeen an antique ſtatue of a muſe. The central ſtructure of the ruin is bounded on each ſide by a range of arches. There is a great quantity of cornices, and other fragments, ſpread over the ground ſeemingly fallen from the buildings; and in the thickets on each ſide are ſeen ſeveral remains of piers, brick walls, and other ruins.

The gardens of Kew undoubtedly are, upon the whole, extremely pleaſing; but it has been thought, and not without reaſon, that with regard to the ornaments and buildings therein, a fondneſs for Turkiſh and Chineſe chequer-work has too much prevailed, in preference to the more beautiful models of Grecian and Roman architecture.

The village of *Kew* is ſituated on the banks of the Thames, in the county of Surrey, oppoſite to Old Brentford. THere is a chapel of eaſe, erected at the expence of ſeveral of the nobility and gentry in the neighbourhood, on a piece of ground that was given for that purpoſe by Queen Anne. In 1758, an act of parliament was paſſed for building a bridge acroſs the Thames, oppoſite to Kew-green; and a bridge was accordingly erected, conſiſting of eleven arches. The two piers, and their dependant arches on each ſide next the ſhore, are built of brick and ſtone; but the intermediate arches, which are ſeven in number, are entirely wood. The centre arch is fifty feet wide, and the road over the bridge is thirty feet wide.

wide. Several gentlemen have elegant country-houſes on Kew Green.

RICHMOND.

At a little diſtance from Kew, and about twelve miles from London, is the village of *Richmond*, which is eſteemed the fineſt village in the Britiſh dominions. It was anciently the ſeats of our monarchs, and the palace, from its ſplendor, was called *Shene*, which in the Saxon tongue ſignifies bright or ſhining. Here died King Edward III. ſo much celebrated in the Engliſh annals; and here alſo died Queen Anne, the wife of Richard II. who firſt taught the Engliſh women the uſe of the ſide ſaddle; for before her time they uſed to ride aſtride. Richard was ſo afflicted at her death, that it gave him ſuch a diſlike to the place where it happened, that he defaced the fine palace. But it was repaired and beautified afreſh by King Henry V. who, had he lived, intended to have made it his ſummer reſidence; but during the long wars between the houſes of York and Lancaſter, it was greatly neglected, and at laſt conſumed by fire in the year 1497. It did not, however, remain long in ruins; for Henry VII. cauſed it to be rebuilt according to the beſt rules of architecture in that age, and commanded that the name of the village ſhould be changed from Shene to Richmond; he having borne the title of Earl of Richmond, before he obtained the crown by the defeat and death of Richard III. Henry VII. died here; and here alſo his grand-daughter Queen Elizabeth breathed her laſt.

The late palace, which was finely ſituated, was a very plain edifice built by the Duke of Ormond, who received a grant of a conſiderable ſpace of land about Richmond, from King William III. as a reward for his military ſervices; but it devolved to the crown on that nobleman's attainder, in the beginning of the reign of King George I. His late Majeſty took great delight here, and made ſeveral improvements in the palace, while Queen Caroline amuſed herſelf at her Royal dairy-houſe, Merlin's-cave, the Hermitage, and other improvements which ſhe made in the park and gardens of this pleaſing retreat. And the preſent King has chiefly reſided here, during the ſummer ſeaſon, almoſt ever ſince his acceſſion to the throne: but ſince the death of the late Princeſs Dowager of Wales, he has removed to Kew. And the palace here has juſt been pulled down, and a new one is begun to be erected.

As

As to the gardens at Richmond, they are extremely fine without offering a violence to nature; and Pope's advice with reſpect to planting, has been conſidered as a very accurate deſcription of the beauties to be found here.

"To build, to plant, whatever you intend,
"To rear the column, or the arch to bend;
"To ſwell the terrace, or to ſink the grot,
"In all let nature never be forgot.
"Conſult the genius of the place in all,
"That tells the waters or to riſe or fall;
"Or helps th' ambitious hill the heavens to ſcale,
"Or ſcoops in circling theatres the vale;
"Calls in the country, catches op'ning glades,
"Joins willing woods, and varies ſhades from ſhades;
"Now breaks, or now directs th' intending lines;
"Paints as you plant, and as you work, deſigns."

In ſhort, almoſt every thing in Richmond gardens has an agreeable wildneſs, and a pleaſing irregularity, that cannot fail to charm all who are in love with nature, and afford a much higher and more laſting ſatisfaction, than the ſtiff decorations of art, where the artiſt loſes ſight of nature, which alone ought to direct his hand.

On entering theſe rural walks, you are conducted to the dairy, a neat but low brick building, to which there is an aſcent by a flight of ſteps; in the front is a handſome angular pediment, which has a fine effect on the eye of the ſpectator. The walls on the inſide are covered with ſtucco, and the houſe is furniſhed ſuitable to a royal dairy, all the veſſels for holding the milk being of the fineſt china, and the moſt beautiful patterns.

On a mount near one ſide of the dairy, is a temple, on the top of which is a circular dome and ball, being ſupported by pillars of the Tuſcan order. Near the river is a wood, through which there is a walk to an elegant ſtructure, called the Queen's Pavillion, and near it is a ſmall ſummer houſe. The great ſummer-houſe is ſituated near the borders of the wood, and is a fine light airy building, having lofty windows, from which there is a moſt delightful proſpect over the river to Sion-houſe, the ſeat of the Duke of Northumberland. In this edifice are two good pictures, repreſenting the taking of Vigo by the Duke of Ormond.

Merlin's Cave, a gothic building, covered with thatch, is near a pond at the end of a labyrinth; and in it is a library, con-

conſiſting of a well-choſen collection of the works of modern authors, neatly bound in vellum. Merlin is repreſented like one of the ancient Britiſh bards, and Queen Elizabeth in the dreſs mentioned by ancient authors to have been worn by the Amazons: both theſe are waxen figures.

On leaving this edifice, which has an antique and venerable appearance, you come to a large oval of about 500 feet in diameter, called the Foreſt oval; and turning from hence you have a view of the *Hermitage*, a groteſque building, which ſeems as if it had ſtood many hundred years; though it was only built by order of the late Queen Caroline. It has three arched doors, and the middle part which projects forward, is adorned with a kind of ruinous angular pediment; the ſtones of the whole edifice appear as if rudely laid together, and the venerable look of the whole is improved by the thickneſs of the ſolemn grove behind, and the little turret on the top with a bell, to which you may aſcend by a winding walk. The inſide is in the form of an octagon with niches, in which are the buſts of five celebrated men, who have been juſtly numbered among the greateſt ornaments of this country; namely, Sir Iſaac Newton, Mr. Locke, Mr. Woolaſton, Dr. Samuel Clarke, and Mr. Robert Boyle.

Leaving this ſeat of contemplation, you paſs through fields cloathed with graſs, and alſo through corn fields, and a wild ground interſperſed with broom and furze, which afford excellent ſhelter for hares and pheaſants; of which laſt there are here great numbers very tame. From this pleaſing variety, in which nature appears in all her forms of cultivation, and of barren wildneſs, you come to an amphitheatre formed by young elms, and a diagonal wilderneſs, through which you paſs to the foreſt walk, which extends about half a mile, and then paſſing through a ſmall wilderneſs, you leave the gardens; to the weſt of which are ſeen the fine houſes of ſeveral of the Nobility and Gentry. We ſhall conclude our remarks relative to the gardens, with obſerving, that the grand terras, which overlooks the river, is admired by all foreigners.

Richmond Green is extreamly pleaſant, it being levelled and encloſed in a handſome manner. It is alſo ſurrounded with lofty elms, and adorned on each ſide with the houſes of perſons of diſtinction. A ſun dial is here affixed in a pretty taſte, encompaſſed with ſeats: this, and the railing-in of the green, were at the ſole expence of the late Queen Caroline.

The village of Richmond, (or town, as it is frequently called)

called) extends a full mile up the hill from the Thames, ſkirted and mingled with gardens. It is now a flouriſhing place; and a theatre has lately been erected here, where, during the ſummer ſeaſon, dramatic entertainments are performed on the ſtage, by ſome of the beſt actors from London: for many people of faſhion reſide here, and in the neighbourhood. Great numbers from London are alſo conſtantly viſiting the gardens, ſome going in parties by water, and others in the ſtage or their own carriages.

The ſummit of *Richmond Hill* affords a moſt enchanting proſpect of towns, villages, bridges, woods, groves, gardens, fields, and an incredible number of delightful villas along the banks of the river Thames, which winds with a ſerpentine courſe through this delicious vale from Kingſton to London. The tide before the building of Weſtminſter bridge, uſed to riſe as high as Richmond, but now falls ſhort of it. It ſtill, however, reaches ſixty miles from the ſea; which is a greater diſtance than the tide is carried by any other river in Europe.

There is here an alms-houſe, which was built by Dr. Duppa, biſhop of Wincheſter, in the reign of King Charles II. for the ſupport of ten poor widows, purſuant to a vow made by that prelate during that prince's exile. There is alſo another alms-houſe, endowed with above 100l. a year, which, ſince its foundation, has been conſiderably encreaſed by John Mitchell, Eſq. Here are likewiſe two charity-ſchools, one for fifty boys, and the other for fifty girls.

Richmond Park, ſometimes called the New Park in Surry, is one of the beſt parks in England. It was made in the reign of King Charles I. and encloſed with a brick wall, ſaid to be eleven miles in compaſs. In this park there is a little hill caſt up, called King Henry's mount, from which is a proſpect of ſix counties, with a diſtant view of the city of London, and of Windſor-caſtle. The new lodge in this park, built by the late Sir Robert Walpole, Earl of Orford, is a very elegant edifice. It is built of ſtone in a ſquare form, with wings on each ſide of brick. It ſtands on a riſing-ground, and commands a very good proſpect of the park. This park is the largeſt of any within the environs of London, except that of Windſor, and the fineſt too; for though it has little more than a wild variety of natural beauties to ſhew, yet theſe are ſuch as cannot fail to pleaſe thoſe who are as much delighted with views in their rudeſt appearance, as in all the elegance of art and deſign.

SION-





The West Front of Sion House.

SION-HOUSE.

Directly oppoſite to the royal gardens at Richmond, though on the other ſide of the river and in another county, ſtands *Sion-houſe*, one of the ſeats of the Duke of Northumberland. It is called Sion from a monaſtery of the ſame name, which was founded by Henry V. in 1414, very near the place where the houſe now ſtands, and which was endowed with one thouſand marks a year, for the maintenance of ſixty nuns, including the abbeſs and twenty-five men. The preſent edifice was erected by the Duke of Somerſet, Protector, and uncle to King Edward the Sixth; who began to build it about the year 1547; but many and great additions and improvements have been ſince made to it, and eſpecially by the preſent Duke of Northumberland. Sion Houſe is built on the very ſpot where the church belonging to the monaſtery formerly ſtood, and is a very large, venerable, and majeſtic ſtructure, built of white ſtone, in the form of a hallow ſquare; ſo that it has four external, and as many internal fronts; the latter of which ſurround a ſquare court in the middle. The roof is flat, covered with lead, and ſurrounded with indented battlements, like the walls of a fortified city. Upon every one of the four outward angles of the roof, there is a ſquare turret, flat-roofed, and embattled like other parts of the building. The houſe is three ſtories high, and the eaſt front, which faces the Thames, is ſupported by arches, forming a fine piazza. The great hall was finiſhed in the manner in which it at preſent appears by Inigo Jones; who was alſo employed to new face the inner court, and to make ſome alterations in ſeveral of the apartments.

The gardens at Sion were firſt laid out and finiſhed in a very grand manner by the Protector Somerſet; but being made at a time when extenſive views were judged to be inconſiſtent with that ſolemn reſerve and ſtately privacy affected by the great, they were ſo ſituated as to deprive the houſe of every beautiful proſpect which the neighbourhood afforded: at leaſt none of them could be ſeen from the lower apartments. To remedy this inconvenience, the preſent Duke of Northumberland cauſed a high triangular terras, which the Protector had raiſed at a great expence, to be removed; the walls of the old gardens were alſo taken down, and the ground before the houſe levelled, and it now forms a fine lawn, extending from Iſleworth to Brentford. By theſe means a beautiful proſpect is not only opened into the royal gardens at Richmond, but alſo

up and down the river Thames. Towards the Thames the lawn is bounded by an ha-ha, and a meadow; which his Grace ordered to be cut down into a gentle ſlope, ſo that the ſurface of the water may now be ſeen even from the loweſt apartments and the gardens. In conſequence of theſe improvements, the moſt beautiful pieces of ſcenery imaginable is formed before two of the principal fronts, for even the Thames itſelf ſeems to belong to the gardens.

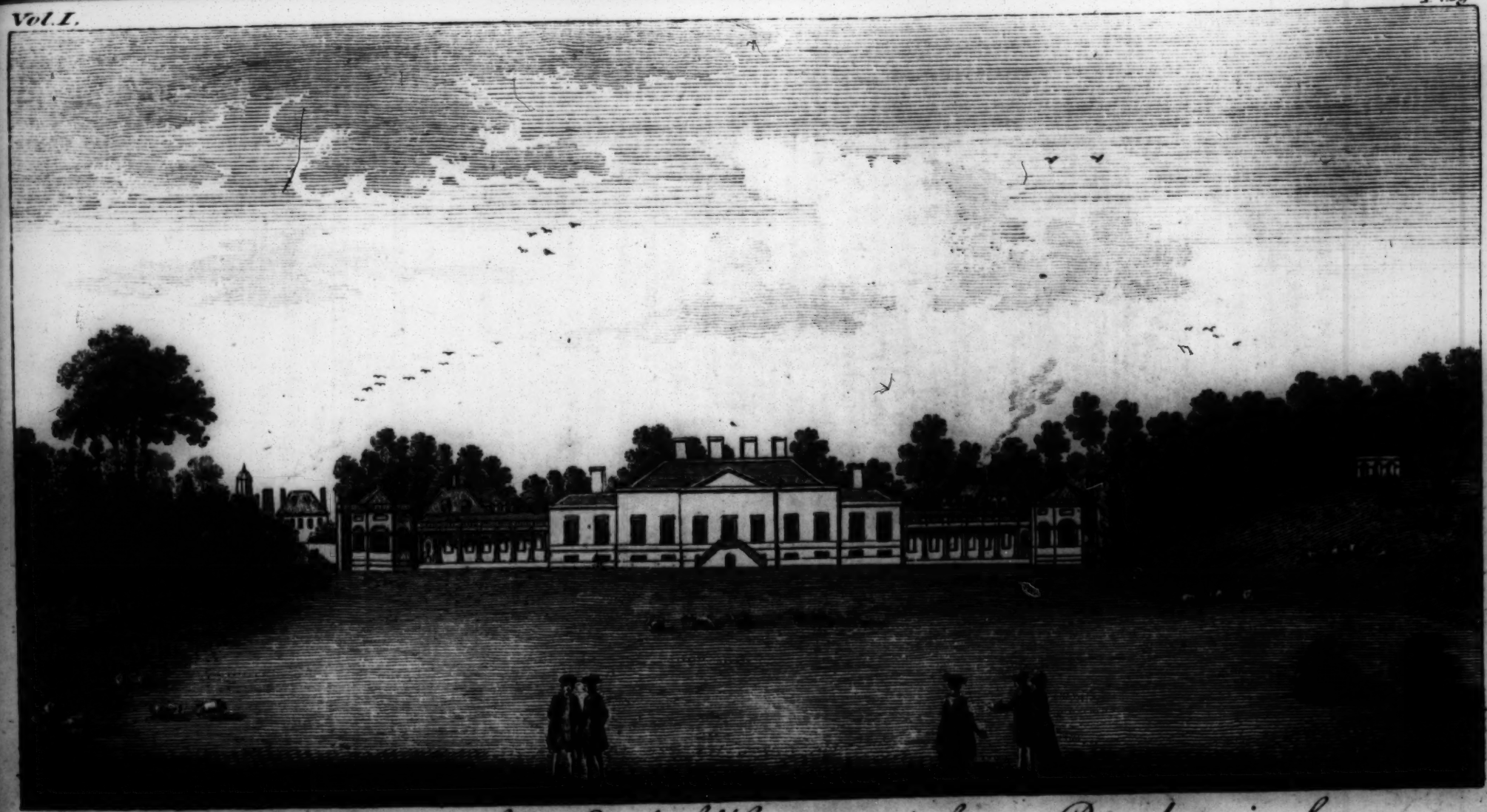
The houſe ſtands nearly in the middle point of that ſide of the lawn which is the furtheſt from the Thames, and communicates with Iſleworth and Brentford, either by means of the lawn or a fine gravel walk, which in ſome places runs along the ſide, and in others through the middle of a beautiful ſhrubbery; ſo that even the moſt retired parts of this charming maze, where the proſpect is moſt confined, almoſt the whole vegetable world riſes up as it were in minature around you, and preſents you with every foreign ſhrub, plant, and flower, which can be adopted by the ſoil of this climate.

The preſent Duke of Northumberland has not only thus improved the ground where the old gardens ſtood, but has alſo made a very large addition to it, and ſeparated the two parts by making a new ſerpentine river. It communicates with the Thames, is well ſtored with all ſorts of river fiſh, and can be emptied and filled by means of a ſluice, which is ſo contrived as to admit the fiſh into the new river, but to prevent their returning back into the Thames. His Grace has alſo built two bridges, which form a communication between the two gardens, and has erected in that, which lies near Brentford, a ſtately Doric column; upon the top of which is a fine proportioned ſtatue of Flora, ſo judiciouſly placed as to command as it were a diſtinct view of the ſituation over which ſhe is ſuppoſed to preſide.

The Kitchen gardens are very large, lie at a proper diſtance from the houſe, and contain every thing neceſſary or convenient, as a hot houſe, fire-walls, &c. The green houſe is a very neat building, with a Gothic front, deſigned by his Grace in ſo light a ſtyle, as to be greatly admired. The back and end walls of it are the only remains of the old monaſtery. This building ſtands near a circular baſon of water, well ſtocked with gold and ſilver fiſh; and in the middle of the baſon is a ſpouting fountain, which is well ſupplied, and plays without intermiſſion.

Among the moſt remarkable particulars at Sion-houſe is the great gallery, which extends the whole length of the eaſt-front

over



The Garden Front of the Earl of Harrington's Seat, at Petersham in Surry.

over the arcades. There is alſo an immenſe quantity of old china vaſes, of different forms and ſizes, crowded together in almoſt every apartment. And the Pedigree picture here is one of the greateſt curioſities of its kind in England, and exhibits the noble and royal connections of the Percies; all which were united in the late Dutcheſs of Northumberland. We may alſo remark, that many fine proſpects may be ſeen from the leads at the top of the houſe; for they command a view of the country to the diſtance of thirteen or fourteen miles, and conſequently the greateſt part of London may be ſeen from them. To theſe obſervations we may add, that the gardens, when viewed from the top of the houſe, form a finer landſcape than can eaſily be conceived.

PETERSHAM.

This is a ſmall village in Surrey, near the New Park, and a little to the ſouth of Richmond Hill. Here ſtood a delightful ſeat built by the Earl of Rocheſter, Lord High Treaſurer in the reign of King James II. But this fine houſe was burnt down in the year 1720, ſo ſuddenly, that the family, who were all at home, had ſcarcely time to ſave their lives. By this accident, the curious collection of paintings, and the whole library, of the Earl of Clarendon, author of the Hiſtory of the Civil War, were wholly conſumed. But on the ground where this houſe ſtood, another was erected after one of the deſigns of the Earl of Burlington, for the Earl of Harrington, who now reſides in it. The front next the court is very plain, and the entrance to the houſe not very extraordinary; but the ſouth front next the garden, is bold and regular, and the apartments on that ſide chiefly deſigned for ſtate, are extremely elegant. The gardens were formerly crowded with plantations near the houſe; but they are now laid out in lawns of graſs. The kitchen garden, before ſituated on the eaſt ſide of the houſe, is removed out of ſight; and the ground converted to an open ſlope of graſs, leading up to a terrace of great length; from which is a proſpect of the river Thames, the village of Twickenham, and of all the fine ſeats round that part of the country. On the other ſide of the terrace, is a plantation on a riſing ground; and on the ſummit of the hill is a fine pleaſure houſe, which on every ſide commands a proſpect of the country for many miles.——Peterſham gives the title of Viſcount to the Earl of Harrington.——It appears from ancient records to have been a place of great antiquity; and formerly it was poſſeſſed of great privileges; ſo that no perſon could

be arreſted in it, and no officer was permitted to come through it with any perſon in his cuſtody whom he had arreſted elſewhere.——The Earl of Dyſart has a handſome ſeat at *Ham*, near this place, which was formerly in the poſſeſſion of the Duke of Lauderdale. It is cloſe by the river, and King Charles II. uſed to be frequently at this pleaſant ſeat, being much delighted with it.

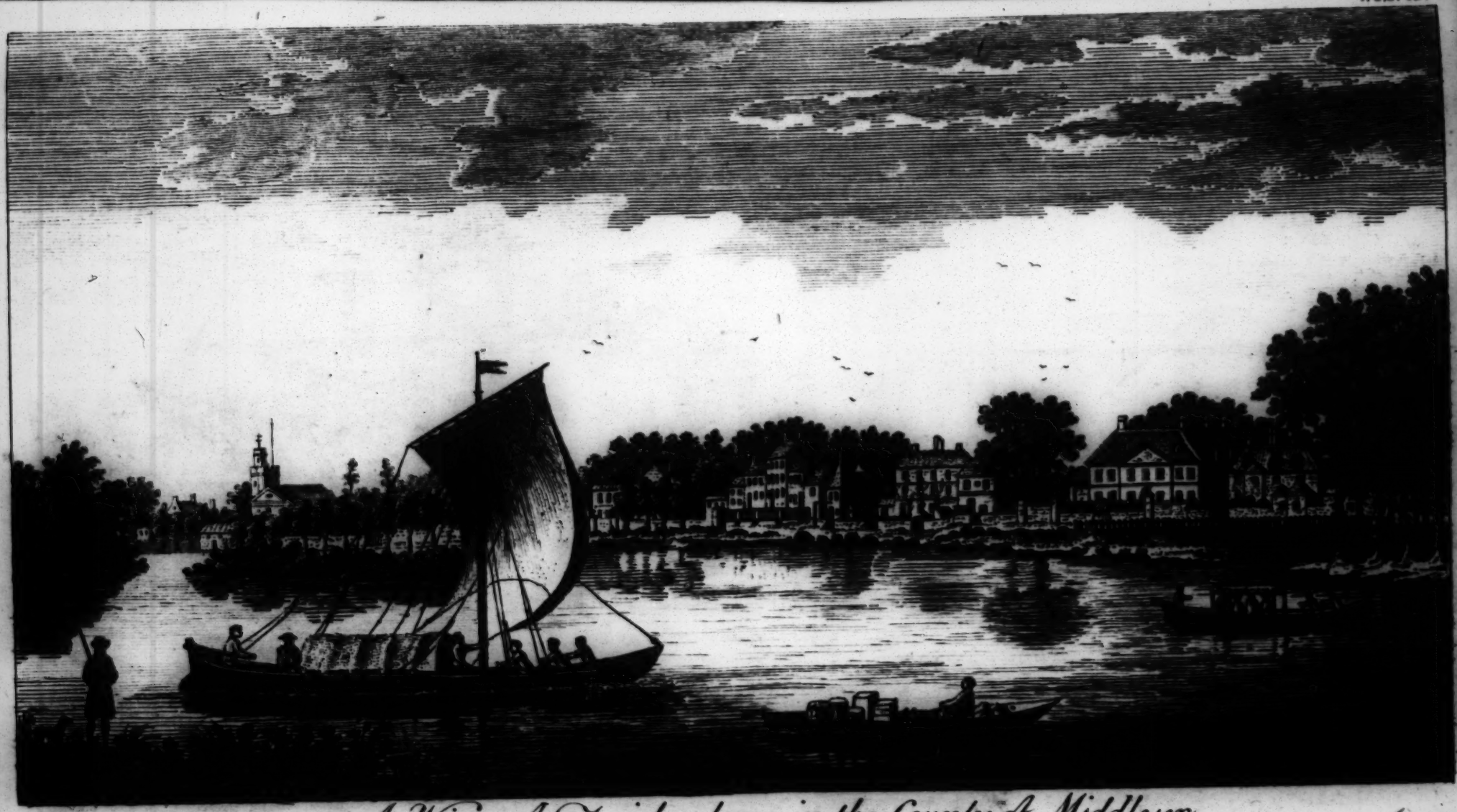
TWICKENHAM.

On the oppoſite ſide of the river, in the county of Middleſex, ſtands the pleaſant village of *Twickenham*, which is particularly memorable for having been the reſidence of Mr. Pope. That celebrated poet purchaſed a houſe here in the year 1715, and took great delight in improving his houſe and gardens. And the improvements which he made were ſo elegant, that his ſeat became an object of general admiration, as well as its owner. The houſe and gardens have, however, been conſiderably enlarged ſince, by the late Sir William Stanhope, who purchaſed them after the death of Mr. Pope.

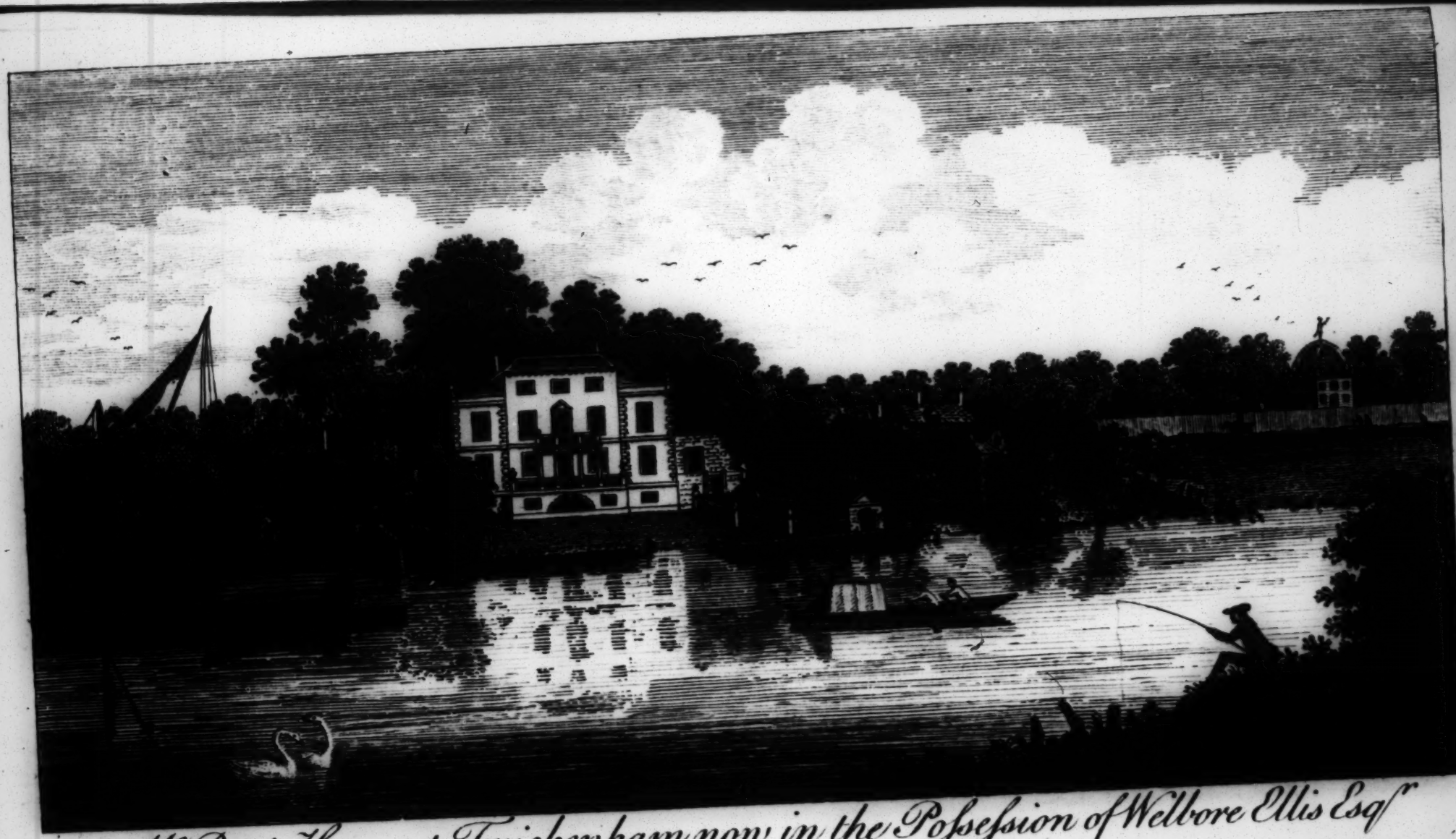
One of the chief ornaments of this agreeable retreat, was the grotto, the improvement of which was one of the favourite amuſements of Mr. Pope's declining years; ſo that not long before his death, by enlarging and increaſing it with a number of ores and minerals of the richeſt and rareſt kinds, he made it one of the moſt elegant and romantic retirements. Toward the beautifying of his gardens and grotto, Mr. Pope was aſſiſted by preſents of various kinds, from ſeveral of his friends, procured from the various quarters of the globe; and among others who made him preſents for this purpoſe, was the late Frederic Prince of Wales; who often teſtified a great regard for men of genius and learning, though they did not proſtitute their talents to gratify the Court, and who always appeared to be a real friend to the liberties of the people.

Our readers will, we preſume, not be diſpleaſed with the following deſcription which Mr. Pope himſelf gave of this romantic retreat, in a letter to a friend, long before it received the laſt and principal improvement. "I have," ſays he, "put the laſt hand to my works of this kind, in happily finiſhing the ſubterranean way and grotto: I there found a "ſpring of the cleareſt water, which falls in a perpetual rill, "that echoes through the cavern day and night. From the "river Thames you ſee through my arch up a walk of the "wilderneſs, to a kind of open temple, wholly compoſed of

"ſhells



A View of Twickenham in the County of Middlesex.



Mr Pope's House at Twickenham, now in the Possession of Welbore Ellis Esqr

" ſhells in the ruſtic manner; and from that diſtance, under " the temple, you look down through a ſloping arcade of trees, " and ſee the ſails on the river paſſing ſuddenly and vaniſhing, " as through a perſpective glaſs. When you ſhut the doors of " this grotto, it becomes on the inſtant, from a luminous room, " a *camera obſcura*; on the walls of which all the objects of the " river, hills, woods, and boats, are forming a moving pic- " ture in their viſible radiations. And when you have a mind " to light it up, it affords you a very different ſcene; it is fi- " niſhed with ſhells, interſperſed with pieces of looking glaſs " in regular forms; and in the cieling is a ſtar of the ſame ma- " terial, at which, when a lamp (of an orbicular figure of thin " alabaſter) is hung in the middle, a thouſand pointed rays glit- " ter and are reflected over the place. There are connected to " this grotto, by a narrow paſſage, two porches, one towards " the river of ſmooth ſtones full of light and open; the other " towards the garden, ſhadowed with trees, rough with ſhells, " flints, and iron ore. The bottom is paved with ſimple pebble, " as is alſo the adjoining walk up the wilderneſs to the temple, " in the natural taſte, agreeing not ill with the little dripping " murmur, and the aquatic idea of the whole place. It " wants nothing to compleat it but a good ſtatue with an " inſcription, like that beautiful antique one which you know " I am ſo fond of:

" Hujus nympha loci, ſacri cuſtodia fontis,
" Dormio, dum blandæ ſentio murmur aquæ.
" Parce meum, quiſquis tangis cavo marmora, ſomnum
" Rumpere; ſi bibas, ſive lavare, tace."

" Nymph of the grot, theſe ſacred ſprings I keep,
" And to the murmurs of theſe waters ſleep;
" Ah, ſpare my ſlumbers, gently tread the cave!
" And drink in ſilence, or in ſilence lave."

" You'll think I have been very poetical in this deſcription, but " it is pretty near the truth."

This letter was written in 1725. But afterwards, when it was in its more perfect ſtate, Mr. Pope wrote the following ſhort poem upon it.

" Thou who ſhalt ſtop where Thames' tranſlucent wave
" Shines a broad mirror, thro' the ſhadowy cave;
" Where ling'ring drops from min'ral roofs diſtil,
" And pointed chryſtals break the ſparkling rill,

" Un-

" Unpoliſh'd gems no ray on pride beſtow,
" And latent metals innocently glow:
" Approach. Great nature ſtudiouſly behold!
" And eye the mine without a wiſh for gold.
" Approach: But awful! Lo! the Ægerian grot,
" Where, nobly penſive, ST. JOHN ſat and thought;
" Where Britiſh ſighs from dying WYNDHAM ſtole,
" And the bright flame was ſhot thro' MARCHMONT's ſoul.
" Let ſuch, ſuch only, tread this ſacred floor,
" Who dare to love their country and be poor."

It hath been juſtly obſerved, that Mr. Pope's modeſty is very conſpicuous in theſe admirable lines. He warns an awful approach to his grotto, on account of the reverence due to his friends, who ſat and thought there; without ſaying one word of himſelf. But what renders it truly venerable, is its having been the ſeat of his own ſtudy and meditation, which will afford inſtruction and entertainment to the lateſt poſterity.—It may be here remarked, that Mr. Pope erected in his garden a ſmall pyramid to the memory of his mother, which is ſtill remaining.

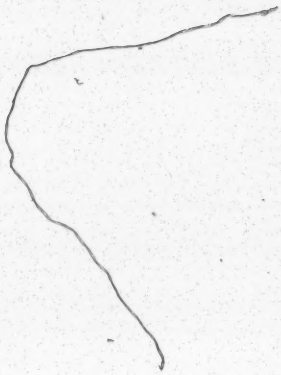
In this pleaſing retreat Mr. Pope (to borrow the words of Lord Orrery) " treated his friends with a politeneſs that charmed, " and a generoſity that was much to his honour. Every gueſt " was made happy within his doors. Pleaſure dwelt under his " roof, and elegance preſided at his table." This fine ſeat is now in the poſſeſſion of Welbore Ellis, Eſq. who married the daughter of the late Sir William Stanhope.

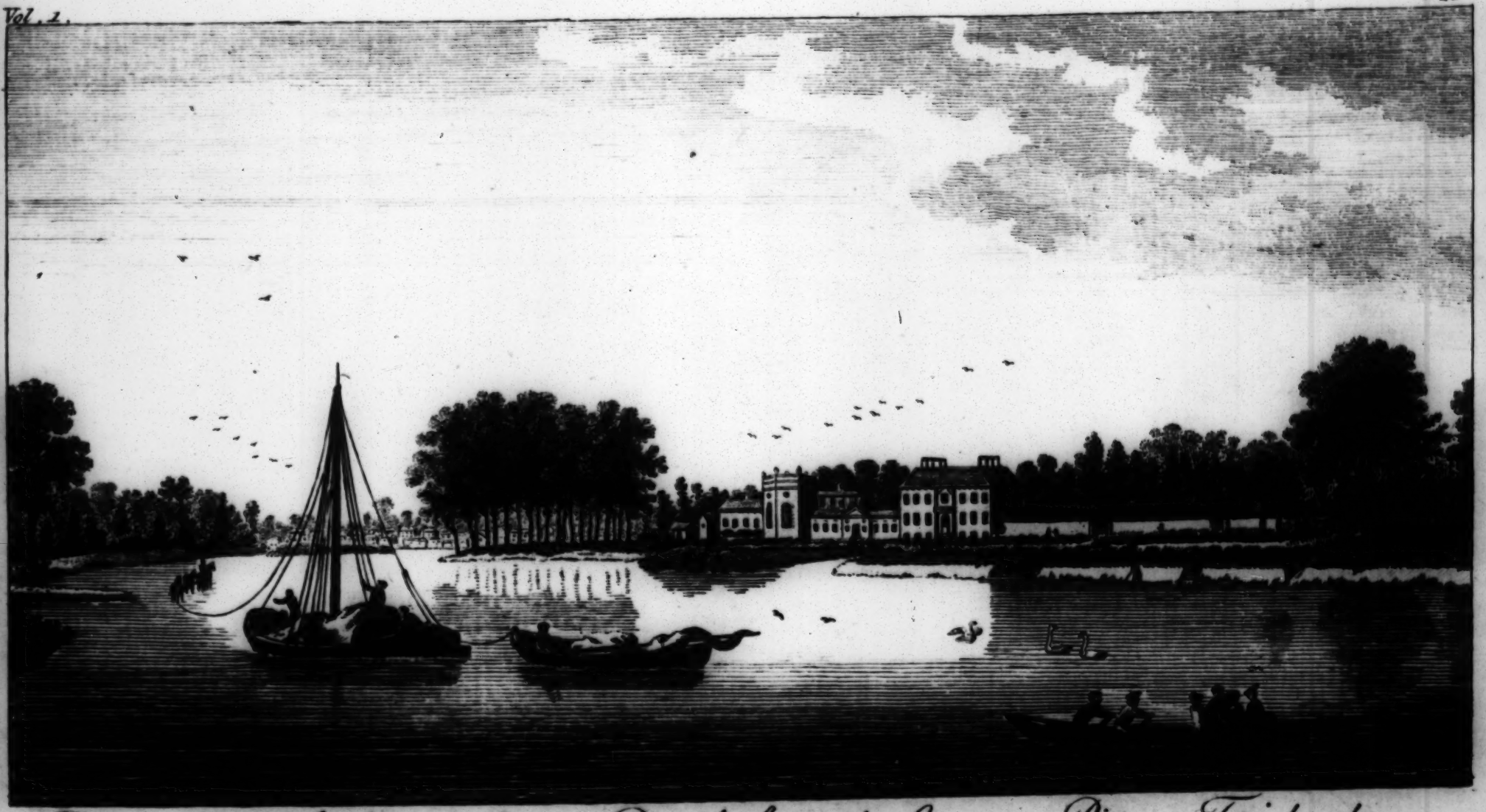
The ingenious Mr. Horace Walpole, well known in the republic of letters for his ſeveral elegant publications in polite literature, has alſo a delightful ſeat near Twickenham, known by the name of STRAWBERRY HILL. This romantic edifice, which is built in an agreeable retirement, appears to the eye like the ſhattered outſide of an ancient priory. The entrance is by a cloiſter which is low, narrow, and obſcure, and humid; upon the walls are to be ſeen epitaphs, and a variety of funeral inſcriptions brought from Italy. The manner in which the houſe is laid out anſwers to its entry. A refactory, chapter, dormitory, chapel; in ſhort, all the ſame as in a religious houſe; and from the manner in which it is conſtructed, from the furniture, the glaſſes, the paintings, and the ornaments, one would take it to be a monaſtery of the thirteenth century. The library unites all the embelliſhments which architects have endeavoured to give to this kind of building: the roof divided into

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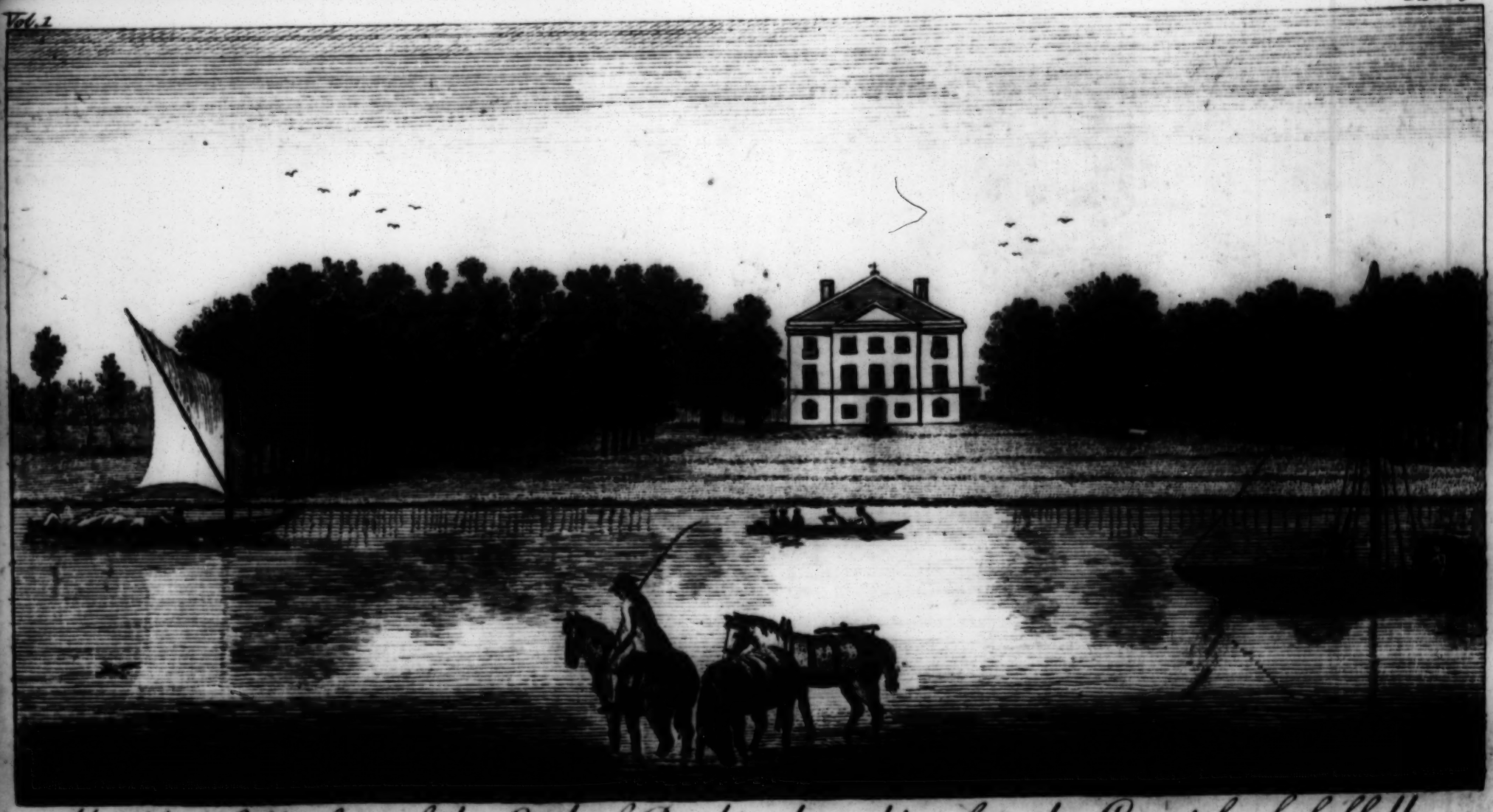


Strawberry Hill, the Seat of Mr. Horace Walpole.





The Seat of the late S.r George Pococke, formerly Governor Pitts at Twickenham.



Marble Hall, Seat of the Earl of Buckinghamshire, late the Countess of Suffolks.

into ogees is loaded with that ſpecies of wreathed ſhells, which the Gothic architecture ſeems to have borrowed from the ſtalactites ſuſpended in thoſe grottoes that held ſo diſtinguiſhed a place in natural hiſtory. The books are contained in ſeveral preſſes, the pannels of which, made after the manner of glaſs caſements of churches, are of the moſt precious ſort of wood, and of the fineſt workmanſhip, upon the moſt antique models. The ſeats, the tables, and deſks, diſcover the ſame regularity and taſte. The windows are of old painted glaſs. It has been juſtly obſerved, that great delicacy and preciſion were neceſſary to give taſte to thoſe fantaſtic forms, ſo widely deviating from the preſent faſhions.

The Earl of Buckinghamſhire has alſo a fine ſeat at Twickenham, called *Marble Hall*, which was ſome years ago in the poſſeſſion of the Counteſs of Suffolk. There are likewiſe ſeveral other fine ſeats here, particularly that of Sir George Pococke, which formerly belonged to Governor Pitt.

The church at Twickenham is a modern edifice, rebuilt by the contributions of the inhabitants, and is a handſome Doric ſtructure. Mr. Pope's father and mother, as well as himſelf, were buried here in the ſame vault; to whoſe memory he erected a monument with the following inſcription, written by himſelf.

D. O. M.
Alexander Pope, viro innocuo, probo, pio;
Qui vixit an. 75. ob. 1717.
Et Edithæ conjugi inculpabili, pientiſſimæ;
Qui vixit annos 93. ob. 1733.
Parentibus bene merentibus
Filius fecit.
Et ſibi. Obiit an. 1744. ætatis 56.

The laſt line was added after Mr. Pope's own death, in purſuance of his will; but the reſt was done after the death of his parents. However, Mr. Warburton, the preſent Biſhop of Glouceſter, has ſince erected a very handſome monument in Twickenham church to the memory of this juſtly celebrated Poet, whereon is his head in a kind of medallion, and underneath the following inſcription:

ALEXANDRO POPE,
H. M.
Gulielmus Epiſcopus Gloceſtrienſis
Amicitæ cauſa fac cur.
MDCCLXI.

And

And a little lower are the following lines:

POETA LOQUITUR.

For one who would not be buried in Weſtminſter-Abbey.

Heroes and Kings your diſtance keep,
In peace let one poor Poet ſleep:
Who never flatter'd folks like you,
Let Horace bluſh and Virgil too.

On the outſide of Twickenham church, there is alſo a ſtone erected by Mr. Pope himſelf, whereon is the following inſcription:

To the Memory of
MARY BEACH,
Who died Nov. 5, 1725, aged 78.
ALEX. POPE, whom ſhe nurſed in his infancy,
And conſtantly attended for thirty-eight years,
In gratitude to a Faithful Servant,
Erected this ſtone.

ISLEWORTH.

Iſleworth, or as it is ſometimes called *Thiſtleworth*, is a very pleaſant village, finely ſituated on the banks of the Thames, about two miles from Twickenham. Richard, King of the Romans, had a palace here, which was burnt down by the Londoners in an inſurrection. Between this place and a ſmall village called Worton, there was a mill in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, for the manufacture of copper and braſs, which were melted and forged out of the ore brought up from Mendip-hill in Somerſetſhire. Here is an handſome church, and two charity-ſchools. Several perſons of diſtinction have ſeats here, particularly the Earl of Shrewſbury.

BRENTFORD.

This town, which is about eight miles from London, receives its name from a brook, called *Brent*, which riſes about Finchley Common, and runs through the weſt part of the town, called *Old Brentford*, into the Thames. As it is a great thoroughfare to the weſt, it has a conſiderable trade, particularly in corn, both by land and by the Thames; and it is extremely full of inns and public-houſes. The market-houſe ſtands in that part of the town called *New Brentford*, where there is a church; and there is alſo another in Old Brentford. The market is held on Saturday, and there is alſo an annual fair on the tenth of Auguſt. There are two charity-ſchools

here



The late Earl of Burlingtons Seat at Chismick, seen from the Garden.

here. Old Brentford is ſituated upon a fine riſing bank cloſe to the Thames, and is naturally capable of being made a very beautiful ſpot. The oppoſite ſide of the river is Kew Green, which appears from hence to advantage.—The Earl of Holderneſſe has an handſome ſeat near Brentford.—At the Butts on the north of New Brentford, is the place for the election of members for the county of Middleſex.

CHISWICK.

This is a pleaſant village in Middleſex, ſituated on the banks of the Thames, about ſix miles from London. Here are ſeveral elegant ſeats, but the moſt remarkable is that of the late Earl of Burlington, which now belongs to the Duke of Devonſhire. Lord Burlington had here before a plain, commodious building, with good offices about it; but a part of the old edifice being ſome years ago deſtroyed by fire, his Lordſhip erected near it the preſent beautiful villa, which, for elegance of taſte, is ſuppoſed to ſurpaſs every thing of its kind in England. The court in the front, which is of a proportionable ſize with the building, is gravelled, and conſtantly kept very neat. On each ſide are yew hedges in pannels, with *Terminii* placed at a proper diſtance; and in the front of theſe hedges, are two rows of cedars of Libanus, which, at a ſmall diſtance, have a fine effect; the dark ſhade of theſe ſolemn ever-greens affording a pleaſing contraſt to the whiteneſs of the elegant building that appears between them, the view of which from the road ſurprizes the ſpectator in a moſt agreeable manner.

The aſcent to the houſe is by a noble flight of ſteps, on one ſide of which is the ſtatue of Palladio, and on the other that of Inigo Jones. The portico is ſupported by ſix fine fluted columns of the Corinthian order, with a pediment very elegant, and the cornice, frize, and architrave, as rich as poſſible. This magnificent front ſtrikes all who behold it with uncommon pleaſure and admiration.

The octagonal ſaloon finiſhing at top in a dome, through which it is enlightened, is alſo very elegant. The other rooms are extremely beautiful, and are finely finiſhed with pictures of the greateſt maſters. Though the other front towards the garden is plainer, yet it is in a very bold, noble, and maſterly ſtile, and has at the ſame time a pleaſing ſimplicity, has hath alſo the ſide front towards the ſerpentine river, which is different from the two others. If this edifice has any fault, it is its being too ſmall for ſo magnificent a deſign.

The inside of this structure is finished with the utmost elegance; the cielings are richly gilt and painted, and the rooms adorned with some of the best pictures in Europe. In the gardens, which are very beautiful, the vistos are terminated by a temple, obelisk, or some such ornament, which produces a most agreeable effect.

The gardens are laid out in the finest taste; on descending from the back part of the house, you enter a verdant lawn planted with clumps of ever-greens, between which are two rows of large stone vases. At the ends next the house are two wolves in stone, done by the celebrated Scheemaker, the statuary; at the farther end are two large lions, and the view is terminated by three fine antique statues, dug up in Adrian's garden at Rome, with stone seats between them, and behind a close plantation of ever-greens.

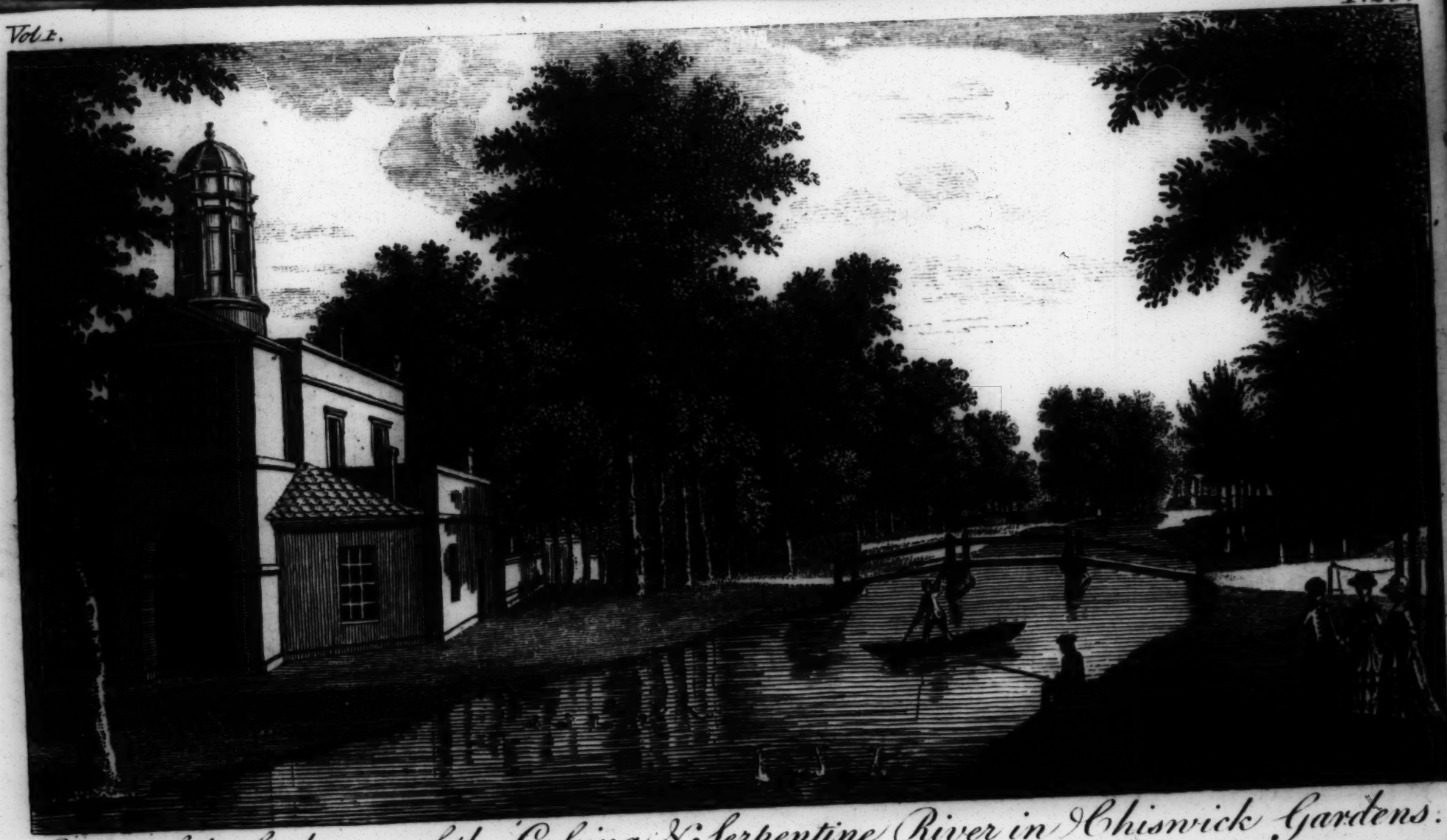
On turning to the house on the right hand, an open grove of forest-trees affords a view of the orangery, which is seen as perfectly as if the trees were planted on the lawn; and when the orange-trees are in flower, their fragrance is diffused over the whole lawn to the house. These are separated from the lawn by a fossee, to secure them from being injured by the persons admitted to walk in the garden.

On leaving the house to the left, an easy slope covered with short grass leads down to the serpentine river, on the side whereof are clumps of ever-greens, with agreeable breaks, between which the water is seen; and at the farther end is an opening into an inclosure, where are a Roman temple, and an obelisk, with grass slopes, and in the midde a circular piece of water.

From hence you are led to the wilderness, through which are three straight avenues terminated by three different edifices; and within the quarters are serpentine walks, through which you may ramble near a mile in the shade. On each side the serpentine river, are verdant walks, which accompany the river in all its turnings. On the right hand of this river is a building that is the exact model of the portico of the church of Covent Garden; on the left is a wilderness laid out in regular walks; and in the middle is a Palladian wooden bridge over the river.

With the earth dug from the bed of this river, Lord Burlington raised a terrace, that affords a prospect of the adjacenty country; which, when the tide is up, is greatly enlivened by the view of the boats and barges passing along the river Thames.

Among



View of the back part of the Caſsina, & Serpentine River in Chiſwick Gardens.

Among the variety of fine paintings which are in the different apartments of Chiſwick Houſe, the following may deſerve particular notice; viz. In the Saloon; Lord Burlington, and three of his ſiſters, Elizabeth, Juliana, and Jane, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; the Morocco Ambaſſador in the reign of Charles II. the figure by Sir Godfrey Kneller, and the back ground and horſe by Wyke; King Charles I. his Queen, and two children, by Vandyke. In the Red Velvet Room, a Madonna della Roſa, by Domenichino; Painting and Deſigning by Guido Rheni; the Holy Family, by Carlo Maratti; King Charles I. by Cornelius Johnſon; the Ducheſs of Somerſet, by Vandyke; the firſt Counteſs of Burlington, by the ſame artiſt; a portrait by Rembrandt; Mr. Killigrew, by Vandyke; the firſt Earl of Burlington, by the ſame; Mary, Queen of Scotland, by Fred. Zucchero; and the Proceſſion of the Dogeſſe, by Paolo Veroneſe. In the Blue Velvet Room; a Chymiſt's Shop, by David Teniers; a landſcape and figures by Gaſpar Pouſſin; Lord Sandwich in a round, by Sir Peter Lely; a woman frying fritters, by Schalcken; the Holy Family, by Carlo Maratti; the Flight into Egypt, by Nicolo Pouſſin; and Inigo Jones in a round, by Dobſon. In the Red Cloſet, next the Blue Room; a landſcape and ruins by Viviano, the figures by Mich. Angelo; Fiſhermen, by Rubens; a man hawking, by Inigo Jones; Temptation of St. Anthony, by Annibal Caracci; the Samaritan woman, by Paolo Veroneſe; a boy's head, by Holbein; and Cleopatra, by Leonardo da Vinci. In the Green Velvet Room; Mars and Venus, by Albano; our Saviour in the Garden, by Guercino; Rembrandt in his painting room, by Gerrard Dow; Belliſarius, by Vandyke; and the Earl of Pembroke and his ſiſter, by the ſame artiſt. In the Bed Chamber; the Earl of Cumberland, in a round; Lady Burlington, in a round; and Mr. Pope, alſo in a round; by Kent. In the Gallery; Lord Clifford and his family, painted in 1444, by John Van Eyk, called John of Burges; Lady Dorothy Boyle, in crayons, by Lady Burlington; a head, by Holbein; a Venus ſleeping; Henry IV. of France, in Moſaick; and the Aſcenſion, by Albano. In the New Dining Room, the finding of Moſes, by Seb. Ricci; a portrait, by Rubens; the firſt Lady Halifax, by Sir Peter Lely; the Marriage of Cupid, &c. by Andrea Schiavone; Mars and Venus, by Le Fevre; the woman taken in adultery, by Alleſandro Veroneſe; and Liberality and Modeſty, after Guido.

GUNNERSBURY.

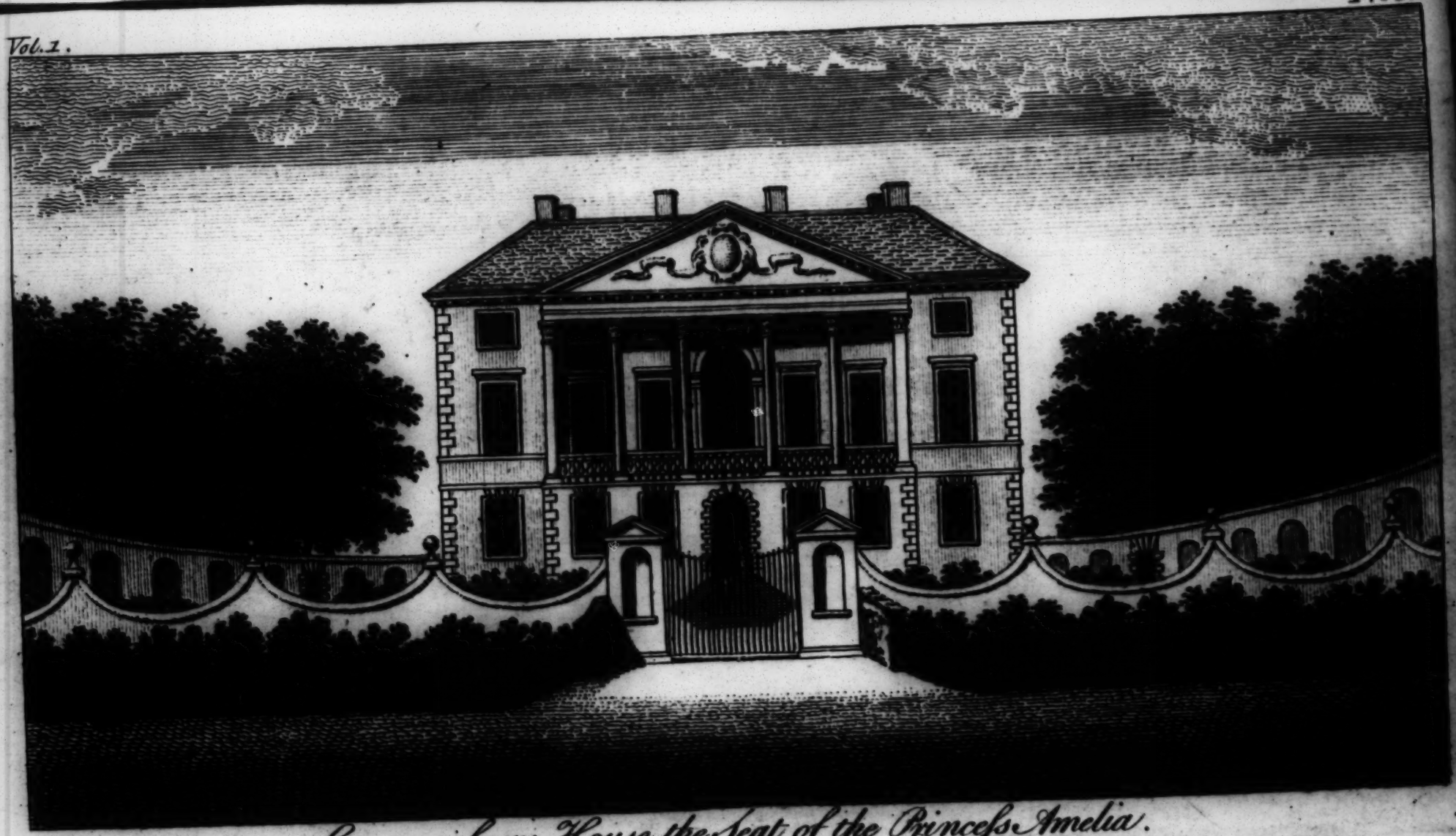
Gunnerſbury Houſe, which is ſituated between Acton and Old Brentford, is an elegant ſtructure, firſt built by Mr. Webb, ſon-in-law to the famous Inigo Jones. It was ſome years ſince the ſeat of Henry Furneſe, Eſq; but is now the reſidence of the Princeſs Amelia. The building, which is at once remarkable for majeſtic boldneſs and ſimplicity, is ſituated on a riſing ground; and the approach to it from the garden is extremely fine.

The grand portico at the back front, which is ſupported by ſtately columns, has a beautiful appearance at a diſtance, and commands a fine proſpect of the county of Surrey, the river Thames, and of all the meadows on its banks for ſome miles, and in clear weather of even the city of London.

The apartments are extremely convenient and well-contrived. The hall, which is large and ſpacious, is on each ſide ſupported by rows of columns, and from thence you aſcend by a noble flight of ſtairs to a ſaloon, which is a double cube of twenty-five feet high, and moſt elegantly furniſhed. This fine room has an entrance into the portico on the back front: and from the fineneſs of the proſpect over the Thames, is a delightful place to ſit in, during the afternoon in the ſummer ſeaſon. For it being contrived to face the ſouth-eaſt, the ſun never ſhines on it after two o'clock; but extending its beams over the country, enlivens the beautiful landſcape that lies before this part of the edifice. On entering the garden from the houſe, you aſcend a noble terrace, which affords a delightful view of the neighbouring country; and from this terrace, which extends the whole breadth of the garden, you deſcend by a beautiful flight of ſteps, with a grand baluſtrade on each ſide. But it has been objected, that the gardens are laid out too plain, having the walls in view on every ſide.

Acton is a conſiderable village about ſeven miles from London, in which there is an handſome church, and ſeveral gentlemens ſeats.—That part of it which is called *Eaſt-Acton* has been of note for the wells near it on *Old Oak Common*, which uſed to be much frequented in May, June, and July, for their purging waters. At a ſmall diſtance from hence is what is called *Friars Place*, which is ſuppoſed to have been formerly a monaſtery; and at a farm-houſe in it, there is

an



Gunnersbury House, the Seat of the Princess Amelia.



A View of Hampstead from a foot way near the Great Road Pond Street.

an orchard, which, in old writings, is called the Devil's orchard.

About three miles from the laſt-mentioned place, is the village of *Kilborne*, or *Kilburn*, which is in the pariſh of Hampſtead. Here was formerly an hermitage, and afterwards a nunnery, to which the manor belonged, as did alſo ſome lands and tenements in Knightſbridge; but after the diſſolution of the monaſteries, the ſite of this nunnery was given by Edward VI. to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick. A ſpring of medicinal waters was found out here a few years ſince.

At a ſmall diſtance from hence is *Belſyſe*, which though now decayed, was formerly a fine ſeat of Lord Wotton, and afterwards of the late Earl of Cheſterfield. Here was alſo a chapel, and a deer-park. This place was of ſpecial note in 1720, the famous ſouth ſea year, when it was turned into an academy for muſic, dancing, and play; and not a little frequented by reaſon of its neighbourhood to London.

HAMPSTEAD.

This is a fine village in Middleſex, ſituated near the top of a hill, about four miles on the north weſt ſide of London. On the ſummit of this hill is a heath of about a mile every way, that is adorned with ſeveral pretty ſeats, in a moſt irregular, romantic ſituation; and has a moſt extenſive proſpect over the city, into the counties all around it, viz. Bucks. and Hertfordſhire, and even Northamptonſhire, Eſſex, Kent, Surrey, Berks, &c. with an uninterrupted view of Shooter's-hill, Barnſted Downs, and Windſor-caſtle. Its chapel was anciently a chapel of eaſe to Hendon, till about 1478, when it was ſeparated from it by the abbot and convent of Weſtminſter, then patrons of the rectory of Hendon, who made a curacy or donative of it in their gift, as it remained till the ſuppreſſion of the monaſteries, at which time King Henry VIII. ſettled it on his new-made biſhopric of Weſtminſter; but King Edward VI. diſſolving that ſee, granted the manor and chapel of Hampſtead to Sir Thomas Wroth, for his ſervices to the crown. After this it belonged to the Earls of Gainſborough; but it has ſince been the property of ſeveral other perſons.

This village uſed to be much reſorted to for its mineral waters; but they have lately been neglected. There is here a fine aſſembly room; and the old church, which was a chapel belonging to the Lord of the Manor, was ſome years ago pulled down, and a new one erected in its room. There

is

is alſo an handſome chapel near the wells, built by the contributions of the inhabitants, who are chiefly citizens and merchants of London; and there is here alſo a meeting-houſe. Though this place is now ſo crowded with good buildings, yet it is obſervable, that in the reign of Henry the Eighth, it was chiefly inhabited by the laundreſſes who waſhed for the Londoners.

HIGHGATE.

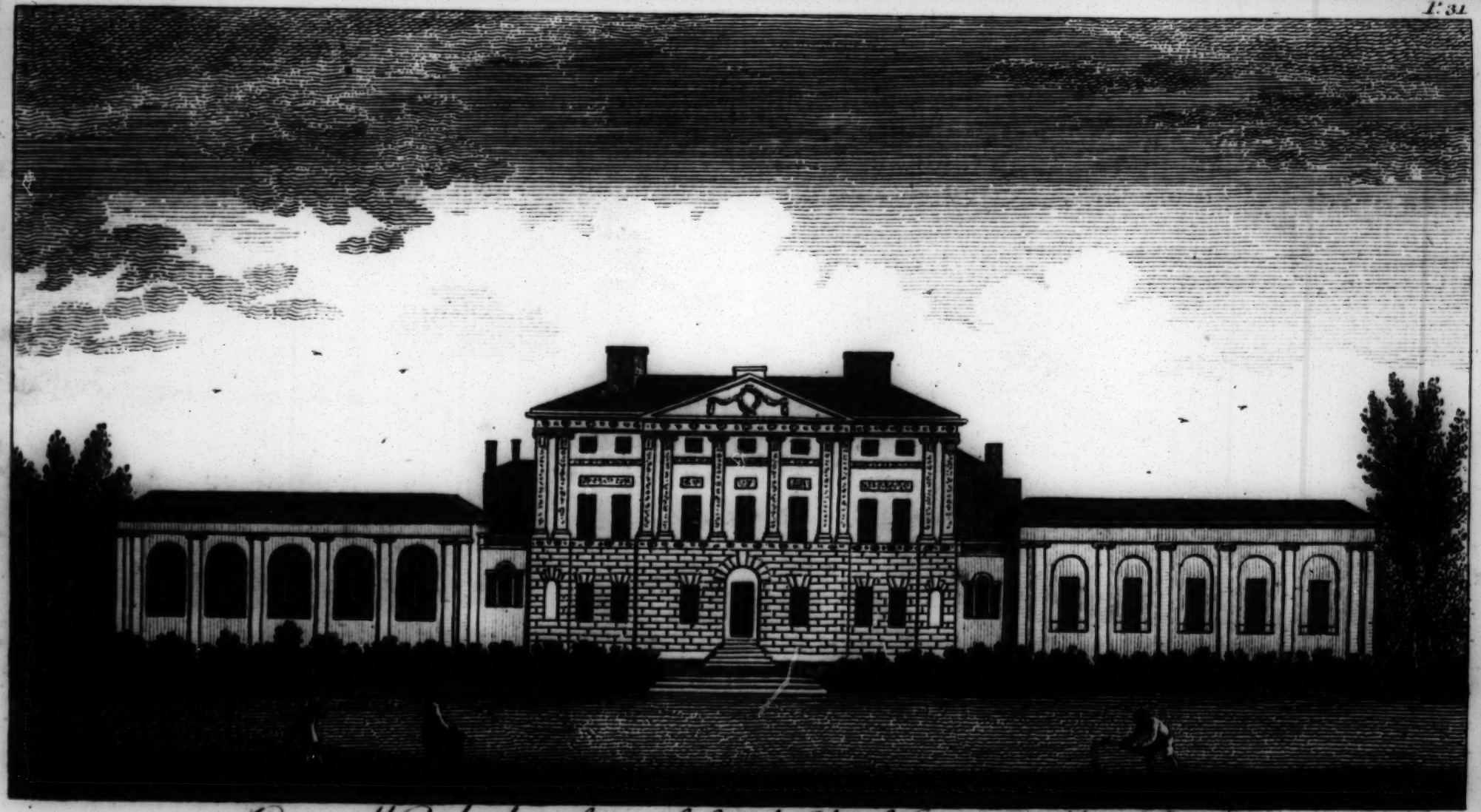
At a ſmall diſtance eaſtward of Hampſtead is *Highgate*, a very large and populous village, a little above four miles north of London. It receives its name partly from its high ſituation, overlooking London, and great part of Kent, Eſſex, and Hertfordſhire; and partly from a gate ſet up there above four hundred years ago, to receive toll for the Biſhop of London, when the old miry road from Gray's Inn Lane to Barnet was turned through the Biſhop's Park. This toll was farmed by Queen Elizabeth at forty pounds a year. Where the chapel ſtands, which is a very ancient edifice, was formerly an hermitage, and one of the hermits cauſed a cauſey to be made between Highgate and Iſlington, by gravel dug out of the top of the hill, where is now a pond. The Biſhop of London preſented the hermits, the laſt of whom was William Forte, preſented to the hermitage, in 1531, by Biſhop Stokeſley. Near the chapel, in 1562, a free-ſchool was built and endowed by Lord Chief Baron Cholmondeley, at his own private expence; but it was enlarged, in 1570, by Edwin Sandys, Biſhop of London, and a chapel added to it. One William Pool, yeoman of the crown, alſo founded an hoſpital here, below the hill, in the reign of King Edward the Fourth.

On that ſide of Highgate which is next London, the fineneſs of the proſpect over the city, as far as Shooter's-Hill, and below Greenwich, has occaſioned ſeveral handome edifices to be built; particularly a very fine houſe erected by the late Sir William Aſhhurſt.——It is remarkable, that moſt of the public-houſes in Highgate have a large pair of horns placed over the ſign; and that when any of the country people ſtop for refreſhment, a pair of large horns fixed to the end of a ſtaff, is brought to them, and they are earneſtly preſſed to be ſworn. If they conſent, a kind of burleſque oath is adminſtered; that they will never eat brown bread when they can get white; never drink water when they can get wine, or ſmall beer when they can get ſtrong;

never



A View of Highgate from Upper Holloway.



Cane Wood, the Seat of Lord Chief Justice Mansfield.

never kiſs the maid, when they can kiſs the miſtreſs; and abundance of other things of the ſame kind, which they repeat after the perſon who brings the horns, with one hand fixed upon them. This ridiculous ceremony is altered according to the ſex of the perſon who is ſworn; who is allowed to add to each article, "except I like the other better." The whole being over, he or ſhe muſt kiſs the horns, and pay a ſhilling for the oath, to be ſpent among the company, to which he or ſhe belongs.——At a ſmall diſtance from Highgate is *Cane-wood*, where Lord Mansfield, the preſent Chief Juſtice of the King's Bench, has a fine ſeat, the ſituation of which is extremely rural.

On the eaſt-ſide of Highgate is *Muſwell Hill*, which took its name from a ſpring or well on the hill, near a houſe built by Alderman Roe, which afterwards came to the late Earl of Bath. By this well, which was eſteemed holy, was a chapel with an image of our Lady of Muſwell, to which great numbers went in pilgrimage. Both the manor and chapel were ſold in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, to Mr. William Roe, in whoſe family they continued, till Sir Thomas Roe, the ambaſſador, ſold them in the laſt century. The manor-houſe was afterwards converted into an houſe of public entertainment.

Not far from hence is the village of *Hornſey*, which is five miles north of London. Its church, whereof Highgate is a hamlet, is ſuppoſed to be built with the ſtones that came from Lodge-Hill, the Biſhop of London's hunting ſeat in his park here; it having been his manor from the moſt ancient times. *Hornſey-wood*, which is nearer London, is a coppice of young trees, at the entrance of which is a genteel public houſe, to which great numbers of perſons reſort from the city. This houſe being ſituated on the top of a hill, affords a delightful proſpect of the neighbouring country.

TOTTENHAM HIGH CROSS.

This is a village in Middleſex, on the weſt-ſide of the river Lea, five miles north-eaſt from London.—David, King of Scotland, being poſſeſſed of this manor, after it had belonged to the Earls of Northumberland and Cheſter, gave it to the monaſtery of the Trinity in London; but King Henry VIII. granted it to William Lord Howard of Effingham, who being afterwards attainted, it reverted again to the King, who then

then granted it to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, to whom it ſtill belongs. The church ſtands on a hill, which has a little river called the Moſel at the bottom, to the weſt, north, and eaſt.

The pariſh is divided into four wards, viz. 1. Nether Ward, in which ſtands the parſonage and vicarage. 2. Middle Ward, comprehending Church-end, and Marſh-ſtreet. 3. High Croſs Ward, containing the Hall, the Mill, Page-green, and the High Croſs. And, 4. Wood Green Ward; which comprehends all the reſt of the pariſh, and is larger than the three other wards put together.

The *Croſs*, which gives name to the place, was once much higher than it is at preſent, and upon that ſpot Queen Eleanor's corpſe was reſted, when it was brought from Lincolnſhire, where ſhe died, to London. Of St. Loy's well, in this pariſh, it is ſaid, that it is always brimful, but never runs over; and of the Biſhop's Well the people report many ſtrange cures.

In the middle of a circular tuft of elms, at the end of Page-green, which are called the *Seven Siſters*, there ſtood many years a walnut-tree always flouriſhing, yet never grew bigger nor taller. The ſeven trees which go under the denomination of *the Seven Siſters*, are ſaid to have been planted by ſeven ſiſters; and one of the trees being crooked, the country people very gravely add this marvellous circumſtance, that the female who planted this tree was crooked, though all her ſiſters were ſtraight; and her obliquity, it ſeems, communicated itſelf to the tree which ſhe planted.

There was a very great wood formerly, of four hundred acres, on and about the hill, on the weſt ſide of the pariſh.—In 1596, an alms houſe was founded here by one Zancher, a Spaniard, the firſt confectioner ever known in this kingdom. Here are alſo a free-ſchool, and a charity-ſchool for twenty-two girls, who are cloathed and taught.—In the reign of Henry VIII. George Heningham, Eſq; one of that prince's favourites, founded an alms-houſe here for three poor widows. —There are many pretty country-houſes and gentlemens ſeats in this neighbourhood; and, among others, Alderman Townſend has a very handſome ſeat here, known by the name of *Bruce Caſtle*. It is in a very pleaſing ſituation, and the building has at once an air of neatneſs, grandeur, and antiquity.



Bruce Castle, the Seat of M.r Alderman Townsend.

WALTHAMSTOW.

This is a conſiderable village in the county of Eſſex, ſituated on the river Lea, about ſix miles from London. The greateſt part of this pariſh, in Edward the Confeſſor's reign, belonged to Waltheof, a nobleman of great eminence, who ſubmitted to William the Conqueror, and was thereupon reſtored to his honours and paternal eſtates. William alſo conferred on him the earldoms of Northumberland, Northampton, and Huntingdon, and gave him his niece Judith in marriage. Notwithſtanding which, Waltheof engaging in a conſpiracy to depoſe William, was beheaded at Wincheſter, about the year 1075.

The river here divides Eſſex from Middleſex as far as Leabridge. There are ſeveral ancient ſeats and handſome houſes, belonging to perſons of diſtinction, at Walthamſtow. The moſt remarkable of which was that of Higham Hall, pleaſantly ſituated upon Higham-hill, a riſing ground, about half a mile north from Clay-ſtreet, juſt above the river Lea, overlooking the counties of Middleſex and Hertfordſhire, and commanding a moſt delightful and extenſive proſpect. It has been a magnificent and ſpacious fabric, and in antient times when the Lords reſided upon their royalties, no place could be more admirably ſituated than this manſion, erected at the top of the hill of Higham, and having within its view the whole extent of its juriſdiction: but there are now hardly any traces of its ancient grandeur remaining.

Walthamſtow church, which is dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin, is a large edifice ſituated upon a hill, and conſiſts of three iſles, that on the north ſide built by Sir George Monox, Knt. Alderman and Lord Mayor of London in the reign of Henry the Eighth, is called Monox's iſle; and that on the ſouth ſide bears the name of Thorne's iſle, from a Citizen and Merchant Taylor of that name, who was probably at the expence of building it. In this church are a great number of monuments.

Sir George Monox alſo built alms-houſes on the north-ſide of the church-yard for thirteen poor people, eight men and five women; with an apartment for a free-ſchool. And for their maintenance ſettled on truſtees an eſtate in Mark-lane, London. Mr. Henry Maynard, a merchant of London, was alſo a great benefactor to this pariſh.

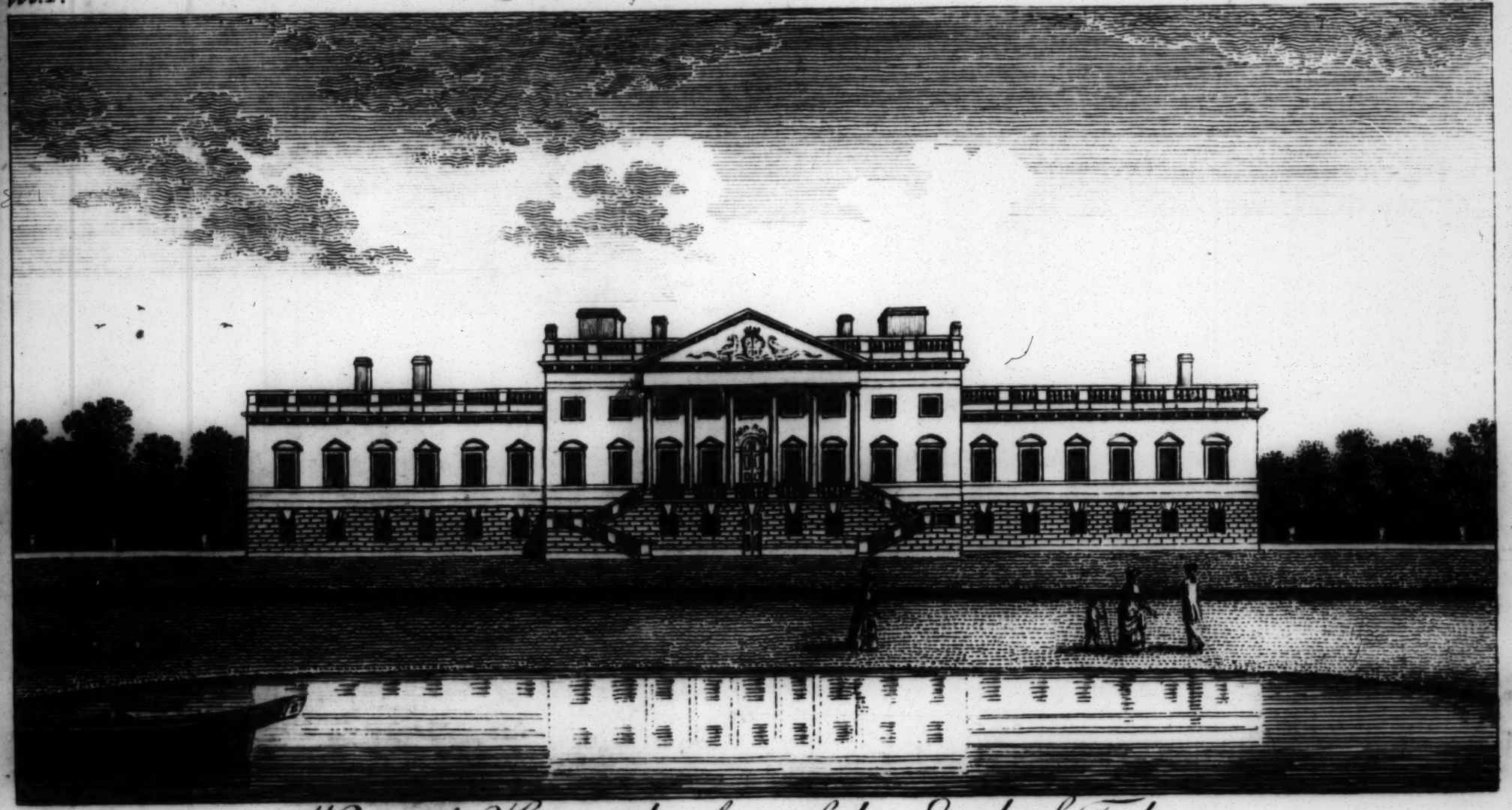
Anthony Bacon, Eſq; has a good houſe, ſtanding in a paddock, about a mile and a half eaſt from the church. And

Thomas Groſvenor, Eſq; has a fine old houſe, half a mile weſt from the church.

Walthamſtow contains ſeveral ſtreets or hamlets, but which are not cloſely joined or connected together, but are ſituated as follows; Shanhall-ſtreet, an hundred yards weſt from the church; Hare-ſtreet, a quarter of a mile ſouth-eaſt; Woodford-ſtreet, half a mile eaſt; and March-ſtreet, three quarters of a mile weſt of the church.

WANSTED.

This is a very pleaſant village, at the diſtance of ſix miles from London. The pariſh of Wanſted joins to that of Walthamſtow. Wanſted is in a delightful ſituation, the greateſt part of it ſtanding on an hill, from which is commanded a beautiful proſpect of the city of London, and its environs; the fine hills of Kent; the river Thames; and rich views of the neighbouring pariſhes. It is ſuppoſed that there was here a Roman villa, or ſome little ſtation: for in the year 1715, as Sir Richard Child's gardeners were digging holes for planting an avenue of trees in the park, on the ſouth-ſide of the lower part of the gardens, they diſcovered a teſſelated Roman pavement. The owner would not permit it to be laid quite open; but by the fragments thrown up, they obſerved, that it conſiſted of ſmall ſquare Teſſeræ of brick of divers colours, from one inch to a quarter of an inch ſquare. Round it there was a border of about a foot broad, compoſed of red dies about three quarters of an inch ſquare; within which were ſeveral ornaments wove in wreaths, and in the middle the figure of a man riding, holding ſomething in his right hand. The pavement was ſituated on a gentle gravelly aſcent, towards the north; and, at a ſmall diſtance from the ſouth end of it, was a ſpring, or well, of fine water, now abſorbed into a great pond. From this well the ground roſe gently towards the ſouth, till it came to an exact level, which reaches a great way. On the very brink of this level, and about three hundred yards directly ſouth from the before ſaid well and pavement, were the ruins of ſome brick foundations. Some years afterwards, upon making further improvements, the workmen found ſeveral ſherds of broken pots, or fragments of urns, of different kinds of earth, ſome brown, ſome white, &c. but all of a coarſe clay; many pieces of bricks, which proved that there had been a building there; and many calcined human bones, teeth, &c. A ſilver medal; a copper one of the emperor



Wansted-House, the Seat of the Earl of Tylney.

ror Valens; and another of copper, generally eſteemed to be of the Conſtantine age, were likewiſe found here. Smart Lethieulier, Eſq; was of opinion, that this was the mauſoleum of ſome private family, whoſe villa perhaps ſtood on the more elevated ground where Wanſted now ſtands.

The church here, which is dedicated to St. Mary, ſtands near Wanſted-houſe, and was new built, chiefly at the expence of the late Richard Earl Tylney. Among other monuments in this church, there is a very ſumptuous one erected to the memory of Sir Joſias Child, a very eminent merchant, and well known for his excellent treatiſe on trade. This gentleman purchaſed the manor of Wanſted, from whom it came to his deſcendant, the preſent poſſeſſor, John, Viſcount Caſtlemain, and Earl of Tylney.

There are at Wanſted, and in its neighbourhood, ſeveral fine ſeats of the nobility, gentry, and wealthy citizens; but their luſtre is greatly eclipſed by WANSTED HOUSE, the magnificent ſeat of Earl Tylney. This noble ſeat was prepared by Sir Joſias Child, who added to the advantage of a fine ſituation, a vaſt number of rows of trees, planted in avenues and viſtas leading up to the ſpot of ground where the old houſe ſtood. The late Lord Tylney, before he was enobled, laid out the moſt ſpacious pieces of ground in gardens, that are to be ſeen in this part of England. The green-houſe is a very ſuperb building, furniſhed with ſtoves and artificial places for heat, from an apartment which has a bagnio, and other conveniences, that render it both uſeful and pleaſant.

The houſe was built ſince theſe gardens were finiſhed, by the late Earl of Tylney, and deſigned by Colonel Campbell, and is certainly one of the nobleſt houſes not only near London, but in the kingdom. It is two hundred and ſixty feet in length, and ſeventy in depth, fronted with Portland ſtone. It conſiſts of two ſtories, the ſtate and ground ſtory. This latter is the baſement, into which you enter by a door in the middle underneath the grand entrance, which is in a noble portico of ſix Corinthian columns ſupporting a pediment, in which are the arms of Lord Tylney. To this you aſcend by a flight of ſteps, and paſs into a magnificent ſaloon, richly decorated with painting and ſculpture, through which you paſs into the other ſtate rooms, which are ſuitably furniſhed with pictures, gilding, velvet, tapeſtry, and other rich hangings. Before this houſe is an octangular baſon,

which ſeems equal to the length of the front. On each ſide as you approach the houſe, are two marble ſtatues of Hercules and Venus, with obeliſks and vaſes alternately placed. The garden front has no portico, but a pediment with a baſs relief ſupported by ſix three quarter columns.

The fore front of the houſe has a long viſta that reaches to the great road at Leighton Stone, and from the back front facing the gardens is an eaſy deſcent that leads to the terrace, and affords a moſt beautiful proſpect of the river, which is formed into canals; and beyond it the walks and wilderneſs extend to a great diſtance, riſing up the hill, as they ſloped downwards before; ſo that the ſight is loſt in the woods, and the whole country, as far as the eye can reach, appears one continued garden.

The grand hall in Wanſted Houſe is fifty-three feet long, by forty-five broad; the ornaments conſiſt chiefly of two large antique ſtatues, on marble pedeſtals, Livia and Domitian; and three large pictures by Caſali, Coriolanus, Porſenna, and Pompey taking leave of his family. The Ball Room, which runs the whole length of the houſe, is ſeventy-five feet by twenty-ſeven; and is very elegantly fitted up with gilded ornaments of all kinds. One of the dining rooms is ornamented with three large pictures by Caſali; Alexander directing Apelles to paint Campaſpe, who is ſitting naked in a chair; the continence of Scipio; and Sophoniſba taking poiſon.

The manor of *Cannons-Hall*, or *Cann-Hall*, lies about a mile ſouth-weſt of Wanſted church. It anciently belonged to the prior and canons of the Holy Trinity, in London. It is now the property of William Colgrove, Eſq;—A good houſe in this pariſh, pleaſantly ſituated, and having thirty acres of gardens, was built in 1690, by Sir Francis Daſhwood; and from him the eſtate paſſed to Sir Orlando Bridgman; but is now the property of Humphrey Bowles, Eſq.

WOODFORD.

This village is eight miles from London; and derives its name from the ford in the wood, or foreſt, where now is Woodford Bridge. This was one of the 17 lordſhips with which Earl Harold endowed his abbey of Waltham holy-croſs, and was confirmed to that monaſtery, with all its lands and appurtenances, and liberties, by King Edward the Confeſſor, in his charter, in 1062. The cuſtom of the manor of Woodford is *Borough-Engliſh*; by which the youngeſt ſon inherits. The origin of this cuſtom has been



The Prospect House at Woodford Row in Essex, the Seat of Robert Maxam Esq.r

been a ſubject of much diſpute; but it appears to have prevailed greatly in the kingdom of the East Saxons. Dr. Plot conjectured, 'that it was introduced by the Lord of the manor's claiming the right of enjoying the bride, daughter of his tenant, on the wedding-night; therefore the villain, or ſlave, doubting whether the eldeſt ſon was his own, made the youngeſt heir.' But as there ſeems not to be ſufficient evidence, that this ever was an eſtabliſhed practice, the Doctor's conjecture has been ſuppoſed not to be well founded.

At *Woodford Row*, Richard Warner, Eſq; has a fine garden, with a labyrinth, adorned with ſeveral Greek inſcriptions, and other curioſities. And Robert Moxam, Eſq; has an exceeding good houſe here, called the *Proſpect-houſe*, a name which it derives from its ſituation, which is remarkably pleaſant.——Woodford Wells were formerly in repute, as purgative, and good for many diſorders, but are now entirely neglected.

About a mile from Woodford is the pariſh of *Chingford*, in which there is an eſtate of 24l. per ann. holden of the rector. Upon every alienation, the owner of the eſtate, with his wife, man-ſervant, maid-ſervant, each ſingle on a horſe, come to the parſonage; where the owner does his homage, and pays his relief in the following manner. He blows three blaſts with his horn; carries a hawk on his fiſt; his ſervant has a greyhound in a ſlip; both for the uſe of the rector for that day. He receives a chicken for his hawk, a peck of oats for his horſe, and a loaf of bread for his greyhound. They all dine, after which the maſter blows three blaſts with his horn, and they all depart.

CHIGWELL.

This pleaſant village in Eſſex, about ten miles from London, is in a pariſh, as well as the neighbouring ones, is moſt pleaſantly ſituated; on which account, and from its convenient diſtance, it is much frequented by perſons from the metropolis, it being one of the moſt pleaſing rides within the like diſtance. The village is neat and agreeable, and has good accommodations for travellers; but carries on no manufacture; it being rather a place for receiving thoſe who are fond of ſhort excurſions into the country, than a place of much commerce. From Chigwell-row is a fine view extending upwards of thirty miles, and comprehending a great part of the river Thames, bounded by the

pleaſant

pleaſant hills of Kent; by Danbury-ſpire in Eſſex; by the foreſt of Henhault; and an exceeding rich country around.

In Chigwell church, there is a fine large plate of braſs, with the whole length portraiture of Samuel Harſnett, archbiſhop of York, engraved thereon in a very curious manner. This prelate, who had been vicar of this pariſh, founded here two free ſchools, one called the Grammar, and the other the Engliſh ſchool. At the weſt end of the church is a wooden belfrey, built of cheſnut, containing five bells; and over the belfrey is a handſome ſpire, ſhingled.——About a mile and a quarter ſouth-weſt of the church, in a bottom, waſhed by the river Roding, is *Luxborough*, a fine ſeat belonging to John Raymond, Eſq;—The manor of *Barringtons*, now called *Rolls*, is about half a mile north-eaſt from the church. The manſion-houſe to it is an elegant modern building, with extenſive offices, and every conveniency ſuitable to render it a very commodious and agreeable ſeat. It ſtands upon the declivity of a large hill, and is enriched with a fine proſpect.

The *Foreſt of Henhault*, in this neighbourhood, is ſuppoſed to have been ſo named from its having been well ſtocked with deers from Henhault in Germany. Within this foreſt ſtands the remarkable large oak called *Fair-lop*, meaſuring upwards of fifteen yards in bulk: it is not an over-tall tree, but is ſingularly beautiful and curious, on account of the boughs ſpreading from top to bottom in a regular circle; and being level underneath, about ten feet from the ground, ſo as to repreſent an umbrella. A cuſtom prevailed among many of the Londoners, to come yearly to eat beans and bacon, dreſſed under the boughs of this tree, which are ſuppoſed to extend eighty feet from the body, all around. It at laſt became ſo remarkable, that a fair was held under it called *Fair-lop Fair*; which fair ſome years ago was ordered to be diſcontinued by Lord Tylney and the Verdurer, on account of its being a nuiſance; for beſides the riots which frequently happened there, the deer ſuffered much.

Lamborn is a pleaſant pariſh, adjoining to Chigwell. The houſes herein are ſcattered at a diſtance from each other, ſome of which are neat, and the reſidence of gentlemen of fortune; particularly Deux-hall, the ſeat of R. Lockwood, Eſq; which commands an extenſive proſpect; and Biſhop's-hall, the ſeat of William Waylet, Eſq. The latter derives its name from its having been formerly the habitation of Henry Spencer, biſhop of



Barrington Hall, at Hatfield Broad Oak in Essex.



T. Olive del.

Kelvedon Hall, in Essex, the Seat of Jn.° Wright Esq.r

of Norwich, in the reign of King Richard II. a prelate more celebrated for his military exploits, than his learning and piety. The ſoil here is fruitful, and of various kinds, and huſbandry alone ſeems to be the employ of the inhabitants. Lamborn church appears to be a very ancient edifice.

At a little diſtance from hence, in the pariſh of Stapleford Abbots, Sir Anthony Thomas Abdy, Bart. member of parliament for Knareſborough, in Yorkſhire, has a fine ſeat, known by the name of ALBYNS. It is ſituated about half a mile north from Stapleford church, and is ſurrounded by a ſmall park. It is a large ſtately edifice, and by ſome thought to be erected by Inigo Jones; but Mr. Horace Walpole is of opinion that this is a miſtake.—Knowle, otherwiſe Knowle's hill, a mile ſouth-weſt from the church, is a pleaſant ſpot in this pariſh, where Henry Spencer, biſhop of Norwich, of whom we juſt made mention, had alſo a ſeat. A piece of ground here, being a wood of twelve acres, is ſtill called Biſhop's Moat, where is a moat, reported to have been paved with marble.

In the adjoining pariſh of Naveſtock, ſtands NAVESTOCK HALL, the ſeat of the Earl of Waldegrave. It is ſituated a little way north from the church, is a handſome regular brick building, and has ſo many advantages and decorations, both of nature and art, as renders it a very pleaſing and elegant ſeat. The gardens and grounds around it have been much improved by Lord Waldegrave.

The pariſh of *Kelvedon Hatch* adjoins to Naveſtock; it is but a ſmall one, but has two ſeats in it belonging to perſons of figure in the county. One of which, belonging to John Wright, Eſq; and known by the name of KELVEDON HALL, is a very elegant new-built brick-houſe, with proper offices belonging to it; and likewiſe pleaſant gardens, ſome pieces of water, and other decorations; but what contributes in the greateſt meaſure to render this ſpot delightful, is the rich and extenſive proſpect that it commands; in which a part of London, although full twenty miles diſtant, is to be ſeen on a fine clear day by the naked eye.—John Luther, Eſq; one of the members of parliament for the county of Eſſex, has alſo a ſeat here called MILES's, about a mile diſtant from the church.—On a tomb ſtone in the church here, is a plate with the following inſcription:

" Fratres in unum.

" Here lies Richard and Anthony Luther, Eſqrs. ſo
" truly loving brothers, that they lived near forty years
" joint

Kelvedon Hall, in Eſſex, the Seat of Jn. Wright Eſq.

" joint houſe-keepers together at Miles's, without any " accompt between them."

In a neighbouring pariſh, *Theydon Mount*, is a fine ſeat known by the name of HILL HALL, which for elegance, and the fineneſs of its proſpects, is eſteemed inferior to few in the county of Eſſex. This edifice was built by Sir Thomas Smith, ſecretary of ſtate in 1548. It is quadrangular, with very thick and lofty walls, adorned with columns in imitation of ſtone. The entrance to it is northward, along a ſtately avenue of great length and ſuitable breadth, on each of which are rows of ſtately elms, and other plantations. Great alterations were made in it by Sir Edward Smith in the laſt century, and more have been made by its preſent owner, Sir Charles Smith.—The church here, which is dedicated to St. Michael, is pleaſantly ſituated. It was burnt by lightning, and was rebuilt by Sir William Smith, of brick, tiled. In the chancel of this church are ſeveral coſtly monuments, the moſt ancient of which is that erected to the memory of Sir Thomas Smith, whom we have juſt mentioned, and who was not only an able ſtateſman, but one of the moſt learned men of the age in which he lived, and a great promoter of the ſtudy of the Greek language.

Theydon Gernon is a very pleaſant pariſh, which lies upon the weſt ſide of Theydon Mount. It is frequently called *Cooperſale*, from a capital ſeat about two miles north of the church. The houſe ſtands upon the declivity of a hill, on the right hand ſide of the road leading to Epping. Around the houſe are a variety of beautiful lawns, viſtoes, and other agreeable objects, but the proſpect is very much confined. The village is but ſmall, and conſiſts chiefly of a few ſhops, and houſes of artificers. But this, with ſome of the neighbouring pariſhes, may with propriety be called *the garden of Eſſex*, from the pleaſing variety of the hills and vales, the fertility of the ſoil, the goodneſs of the roads, the neatneſs of the buildings, and the many additional ornaments they receive from the number of noblemens and gentlemens ſeats with which they abound; inſomuch that a traveller cannot paſs through this part of the county without being ſtruck with its beauty, and the variety of noble and pleaſing proſpects which in different places preſent themſelves to its view.

At a ſmall diſtance from hence is the pariſh of *Loughton*, which is about thirteen miles from London, and in a very healthy ſituation. The village is ſmall and neat, but carries on little or no traffic. In this pariſh are ſeveral very good houſes,

houſes, particularly that in which Captain Williams reſides, on the left hand ſide of the road leading to London; one belonging to Sackville Boyle, Eſq; at the bottom of Bucket-green; and another to Alexander Hamilton, Eſq; upon Dedden-green. Richard Lomax Clay, Eſq; late high-ſheriff of this county, has an excellent houſe upon the ſummit of Golden-hill, which commands an exceedingly rich and extenſive proſpect, in which the greateſt part of the city of London is included. And Loughton-hall, though it is not a regular, is a large handſome building, ſurrounded by a variety of beautiful proſpects. The pariſh of Loughton was one of the ſeventeen Lordſhips whherewith Earl Harold endowed his monaſtery of Waltham; and in that monaſtery it continued till the ſuppreſſion, when it came to the crown. It is ſaid that in 1688, the Princeſs of Denmark, afterwards Queen Anne, retired to Loughton-hall, when ſhe ſaw how things were going on with her imprudent father. Loughton church is very agreeably ſituated, having a fine proſpect all around it.

WALTHAM-ABBEY, or WALTHAM-HOLY-CROSS.

This is a town in Eſſex, on the eaſt ſide of the river Lea, which here dividing, incloſes ſome iſlands with fine meadows, and parts Eſſex from Hertfordſhire, and this village from Waltham Croſs, or Weſt Waltham. The firſt mention which is made of this place by antient writers, is about the latter times of the Saxons; when it appears that Tovi, a man of great wealth and authority, ſtandard-bearer to King Canute, induced by the abundance of deer, built a number of houſes here, and peopled them with ſixty-ſix inhabitants. King Edward the Confeſſor, into whoſe hands it afterwards came, beſtowed this village upon his brother-in-law Harold, ſon to Earl Godwin, who built an abbey here, from whence the place derives its preſent name. Tovi had begun a church here for two prieſts, and committed to their keeping a miraculous *Croſs*, ſaid to have been diſcovered in a viſion to a carpenter far weſtward, and brought hither in a manner unknown; which was reported to work many wonders. On account of that croſs, this place is ſaid to have obtained the name of *Holy Croſs*.

After Harold became poſſeſſed of it, in the year 1062, he founded here a college for a dean, and eleven ſecular canons, in memory of King Edward, his Queen Æditb, his father and

mother, and all his other relations; and endowed it with Weſt Waltham, and ſixteen other manors. Many other very conſiderable grants were afterwards made to this monaſtery, and it was alſo endowed with very great and ſpecial privileges and immunities. However, it appears that the foundation for a dean and canons was of no longer continuance than from the year 1062 to 1177. For the court of Rome having formed the deſign of introducing into all convents *monks* inſtead of *ſeculars*, under pretence that the latter lived more irreligiouſly and carnally than the others, King Henry II. converted this college into a monaſtery for an abbot, and ſixteen monks of the order of St. Auguſtine. His principal motive for ſo doing, appears to have been, the ſaving his money; for, in order to pacify the Pope, having vowed to erect an abbey for canons regular, to the honour of God and St. Thomas a Becket, for the expiation of his ſins, it was much cheaper for him to make a ſmall change in this, than to erect a new one. However, from this time till the diſſolution of the monaſteries, it continued an abbey for Auſtin monks. Its abbots, who were mitred, and had the 20th place in parliament, lived in a moſt ſplendid, but hoſpitable manner; and were frequently viſited by King Henry III. when he was reduced, and obliged to carry his family about for a dinner. The abbey was at the diſſolution beſtowed by King Henry VIII. on Sir Anthony Denny, one of his favourites, and gentleman of his bed-chamber; but the manor of Waltham is at preſent in the poſſeſſion of Sir William Wake, Bart.

This abbey was a curious, large, and antique ſtructure; the whole front a few years ago was entirely rebuilt with brick and ſtone, after a modern and beautiful form by Charles Wake Jones, Eſq; and on each ſide front it had a wing. The hall was exceedingly handſome, being remarkable for its curious wainſcotting and excellent paintings. In length it meaſured ſixteen yards and a half; in breadth eight yards and a half; and in height nine yards and one foot. It was encompaſſed with many fertile paſtures, and pleaſant meads and marſhes. The ſpacious garden belonging to it was ſurrounded by a beautiful canal: the garden, which was very delightful, contained a variety of plants, and fruits, fine groves and walks; and in ſhort, every thing that was neceſſary to render it agreeable. But the fine tulip-tree that is here muſt not be forgotten, it being eſteemed the largeſt that ever was ſeen. This tree is ſtill left, and is encompaſſed



Waltham Abbey Church.

compaſſed by a paling. But the houſe was pulled down in 1770, and the gardens are now let to a gardener.

Waltham abbey-church is a Gothic edifice, rather large than neat, firm than fair, and very dark. The great pillars are wreathed with indentings, which are ſaid to have been formerly filled up with braſs. To the ſouth ſide of the church adjoins a chapel, now converted into a ſchool; and formerly called *our Lady's*, becauſe there was founded in it a chantry of that name; and under it is a very fair arched charnal-houſe. The whole was formerly well leaded, but is now tiled. In the middle ſtood the tower, cathedral-wiſe. Part of it falling down ſoon after the ſurrender of the abbey, probably in pulling down the chancel and choir, a wall was run up at the eaſt end of the church; and a handſome tower was erected at the weſt end, 86 feet in height from the foundation to the battlements. This was begun in the year 1558, at the charge of the pariſhioners; and three years were employed in the building it. Every year's work is diſcernible by the difference in the ſtones; and the pariſh was obliged, in order to raiſe money to complete the building, to ſell their bells, which before hung in a wooden frame in the church yard. So that Waltham, which had formerly bells without a ſteeple, had for ſome time a ſteeple without bells. There are now ſix bells.

The founder, King Harold, was buried in this church, with his two brothers, Girth and Leofwine. Since the demolition of the chancel, or of a chapel thereto adjoining, the place of his ſepulchre is within the garden of the Lord of the Manor. Over his grave laid a grey marble ſtone, with a croſs carved upon it, and a Latin epitaph, which has been thus tranſlated:

" A fierce foe thee ſlew; thou a King, he a King in view:
" Both peers, both peerleſs; both fear'd, and both fearleſs:
" That ſad day was mixt, by Firmin and Calixt;
" Th' one help'd thee to vanquiſh, t'other made thee to languiſh.
" Both now for thee pray, and thy requiem ſay;
" So let good men all, to God for thee call."

The laſt account we have of this tomb-ſtone, is, that it was at Waltham-mill, and ſeen there by Dr. Uvedell of Enfield. Towards the end of Queen Elizabeth's reign, King Harold's coffin was diſcovered by one Tomkins, gardener to Sir Edward Denny, being of a hard ſtone, and covered with another; wherein the bones lay in proper order, with-

out any kind of dirt but upon the touch mouldered into duſt.

A decent meeting-houſe was erected here in 1729, for Proteſtant Diſſenters. There are alſo here four alms-houſes, founded for four widows by Mr. Green, purveyor to King James I. with an orchard and a barn adjoining, the rent of which is payable to the ſaid widows. Upon the alms-houſes is the following inſcription, the ſentiments of which deſerve to be attended to, whatever may be thought of the poetry.

" Birth is a pain, life, labour, care, toil, thrall;
" In old age ſtrength fails, laſtly, death ends all.
" Whilſt ſtrong life laſt, let virtuous deeds be ſhown,
" Fruit of ſuch trees are thereby hardly ſeen or known.
" To have reward with laſting joys for ay,
" When vicious actions fall to ends decay.
" Of wealth o'erplus, land, money, ſtock, or ſtore,
" In life that will relieve aged, needy, poor,
" Good deeds defer not till the fun'ral rite be paſt;
" In life-time what's done, is made more ſure, firm, faſt;
" So ever after it ſhall be known and ſeen
" The leaf and fruit ſhall ever ſpring freſh and green. 1626.

In the eaſtern extremity of the pariſh, partly in it, and partly in that of Epping, by the ſide of Copped Hall Park, is a fine old camp, incloſing 11 acres, 2 roods, and 20 perches, commonly called Amber's-bank. The new road from Debdon-green to Epping goes through it. Mr. Morant is of opinion, that the deciſive battle between Boadicea and the Romans was fought hereabouts.—Harold's Park, ſo named from Earl Harold, part of whoſe demeſnes it was, and given by him to Waltham-abbey, is about three miles north-eaſt of the church.

The town of Waltham-abbey is built moſtly of timber; it is very irregular and inconvenient, and makes but a mean appearance; the chief houſe in it is that of James Barwick, Eſq. The market-place is ſmall, and the market, which is held on Tueſdays, is well provided with grain, and noted for fine veal, pork, and pigs. Here are two fairs annually; one on the 14th of May; and the other on September 25, 26; which laſt was formerly held for ſeven days. On the one ſide of the town are large and beautiful meadows, ſome of which are uſed in common to the town. Theſe meadows in the time of King Alfred, in the year 876, laid under water, which great water was then navigable. That truly great King (who really was, what

ſome

ſome later Kings have only pretended to be, the father of his people) divided the grand ſtreams of the river Lea into ſeveral rivulets, by which means ſome Daniſh ſhips which lay here for ſecurity, became water-bound, and their mariners were obliged to ſhift for themſelves over-land; which proved a great check to the ravages of the Danes.

A new navigable river hath lately been cut here. It takes its riſe at a place called Ives's ferry, in Hertfordſhire, where it is ſupplied from the old river Lea, and extends through part of the town of Waltham-abbey, Endfield, Edmonton, and Hackney-marſhes, Bromley, Limehouſe, and Dick-ſhore, emptying itſelf into the Thames. The chief utility of which is, that the navigation to Waltham-abbey is ſhortened about ten miles, and the expenſive delay of the craft in the Thames by eaſterly winds, is in a great meaſure avoided. Theſe rivers afford plenty of fiſh, ſome ſalmon-trouts, eels, carp, tench, pike, perch, craw-fiſh, and many others.

Near the town, on one of theſe rivers, are ſeveral curious gun-powder-mills, upon a new conſtruction, worked by water, the old ones having been worked by horſes. Theſe are reckoned the moſt compleat in England, and will make near an hundred barrels weekly for the ſervice of the government, each barrel containing one hundred weight. They are now the property of Bouchier Walton, Eſq.—On the north ſide of the town callico-printing is carried on with great ſpirit. The woolcombing buſineſs is alſo carried on here ſtill; but not in ſo extenſive a manner as it was formerly.

The learned Dr. Joſeph Hall, afterwards Biſhop of Exeter and Norwich, was miniſter of this pariſh; as was alſo Dr. Thomas Fuller, author of the Church Hiſtory of Britain, the Worthies of England, &c. and who was ſo famous for the extraordinary ſtrength of his memory.

About two miles from Waltham-abbey, in the road to Epping, is a beautiful ſeat, named WARLEYS, lately in the poſſeſſion of Mr. Carter, but now belonging to his two daughters. The houſe is ſituated in a bottom; but the park and other objects about it riſe to the view, and form a pleaſing proſpect.—Edward Parker, Eſq; has alſo a good houſe about a quarter of a mile eaſt from the town.

WEST-WALTHAM, or WALTHAM-CROSS.

This is a ſmall town on the weſt ſide of the river Lea, in Middleſex and Hertfordſhire. It is a poſt-town, and good thoroughfare in the Ware road, about twelve miles from London.

London. It has its name of Croſs, from that erected here by order of King Edward I. in memory of its being one of the reſting places for the corpſe of his Queen, when ſhe was brought from the north to be interred at Weſtminſter. That princeſs's effigies are placed round the pillar with the arms of her conſort, and thoſe of her own, viz. England, Caſtile, Leon, and Poictou, which are ſtill in part remaining, though greatly defaced.

E P P I N G.

This town lies eaſt-north-eaſt of Waltham-abbey, and is about ſixteen miles from London. It is divided into two parts; namely, *Upland*, where the church is ſituated; and *Townſide*, where the town ſtands. It conſiſts chiefly of inns and public-houſes, the ſhops being few in number, juſt ſufficient to ſupply the town and neighbourhood with common neceſſaries. It is near a mile in length, extending almoſt due eaſt and weſt. A market is held here weekly on Fridays, and its principal commodities are fowls and butter, it being particularly famous for the latter, much of which is carried from hence to London. The buildings in the town are but indifferent; and here is a church and a brick chapel, the latter in a miſerable condition, at which and the church, divine ſervice is performed alternately. Here is a Diſſenting-meeting houſe, and alſo a Quakers-meeting. The church ſtands pleaſantly on a riſing ground, is of one pace with the chancel, and of an uncommon length. It has of late been repaired and beautified, and is extremely neat.

Copped Hall, or *Copt Hall*, the ſeat of John Conyers, Eſq; member for the county, is in the pariſh of Epping. This is an elegant and convenient modern edifice, and is very agreeably ſituated. The gardens belonging to it are well laid out, and here is a large park. In the old houſe here was a ſtately gallery fifty-ſix yards long, erected by Sir Thomas Heneage, which was blown down in November, 1639, by a violent hurricane. At this ſeat was formerly a chapel, wherein was placed the fine painted glaſs window from Newhall chapel, and which John Conyers, Eſq; ſold to the pariſhioners of St. Margaret's, Weſtminſter, by whom it has been put up in the chancel of that church.

Epping-Foreſt, which is a royal chace, and which reaches many miles from the town of Epping towards London, was anciently called the Foreſt of Eſſex, and then of Waltham; and was granted by Edward the Confeſſor to his favourite Ran-

Randolph Pepper-king, afterwards called Peverell; who having a beautiful lady to his wife, William the Conqueror fell in love with her, and had a ſon by her, called William Peverell.

CHEPING ONGAR.

This is a ſmall town in the county of Eſſex, ſituated on the river Roding, eight miles from Epping, and twenty from London. It conſiſts chiefly of one ſtreet of pretty good houſes, but has been a market-town for many years, on which account here are ſome good inns. The market is kept weekly on Saturdays. The traffic of this town, except on market-days, is but trifling, and at thoſe times is not very conſiderable. Here are two fairs annually, the one on Eaſter Tueſday, the other the day after the feaſt of St. Michael, both of which fairs are for toys and hiring of ſervants.

This place in old records was called *Ongar ad Caſtrum*, from a caſtle built here by Richard de Lucy, who was intruſted with the office of lieutenant of the kingdom in the abſence of King Henry II. in Normandy*. This caſtle was ſituated at on the top of an artificial hill, and ſurrounded by a large moat; which, with ſeveral other moats, compoſed the fortification; but the caſtle growing ruinous, was taken down in Queen Elizabeth's reign, and an handſome brick edifice erected in its room. But this building was demoliſhed by Edward Alexander, Eſq; who in 1744 erected, inſtead of it, a large handſome ſummer-houſe, embattled. It ſtands at a ſmall diſtance north-eaſt from the church, is ſurrounded by a deep and wide moat, and aſcended by a ſteep winding walk, arched over moſt of the way with trees, ſhrubs, &c. The room is roofed by a beautiful dome leaded, the top of which is aſcended by a pair of ſteps, and over the embattlement the ſpectator is preſented with a beautiful proſpect on all ſides.

This place is ſuppoſed to have been of ſome note before the Saxons were maſters here. The church is built partly of Roman brick; and ſeveral Roman foundations have been diſcovered in this pariſh, particularly in the church and churchyard.

* This Richard de Lucy was alſo Sheriff of Eſſex and Hertfordſhire in 1156, and conſtituted Juſtice of England in 1162. The priory of Leſnes in Kent was of his founding, where he entered himſelf a canon regular, and died there in 1179.

At

At a little diſtance from hence is the pariſh of *Greenſted*, wherein David Robotier, Eſq; has an handſome ſeat, called Greenſted-Hall, which is ſituated a little way eaſt from the church. The church is a very uncommon antique building; for the walls are of timber, not framed, but trees ſplit, or ſawn aſunder, and ſet into the ground.

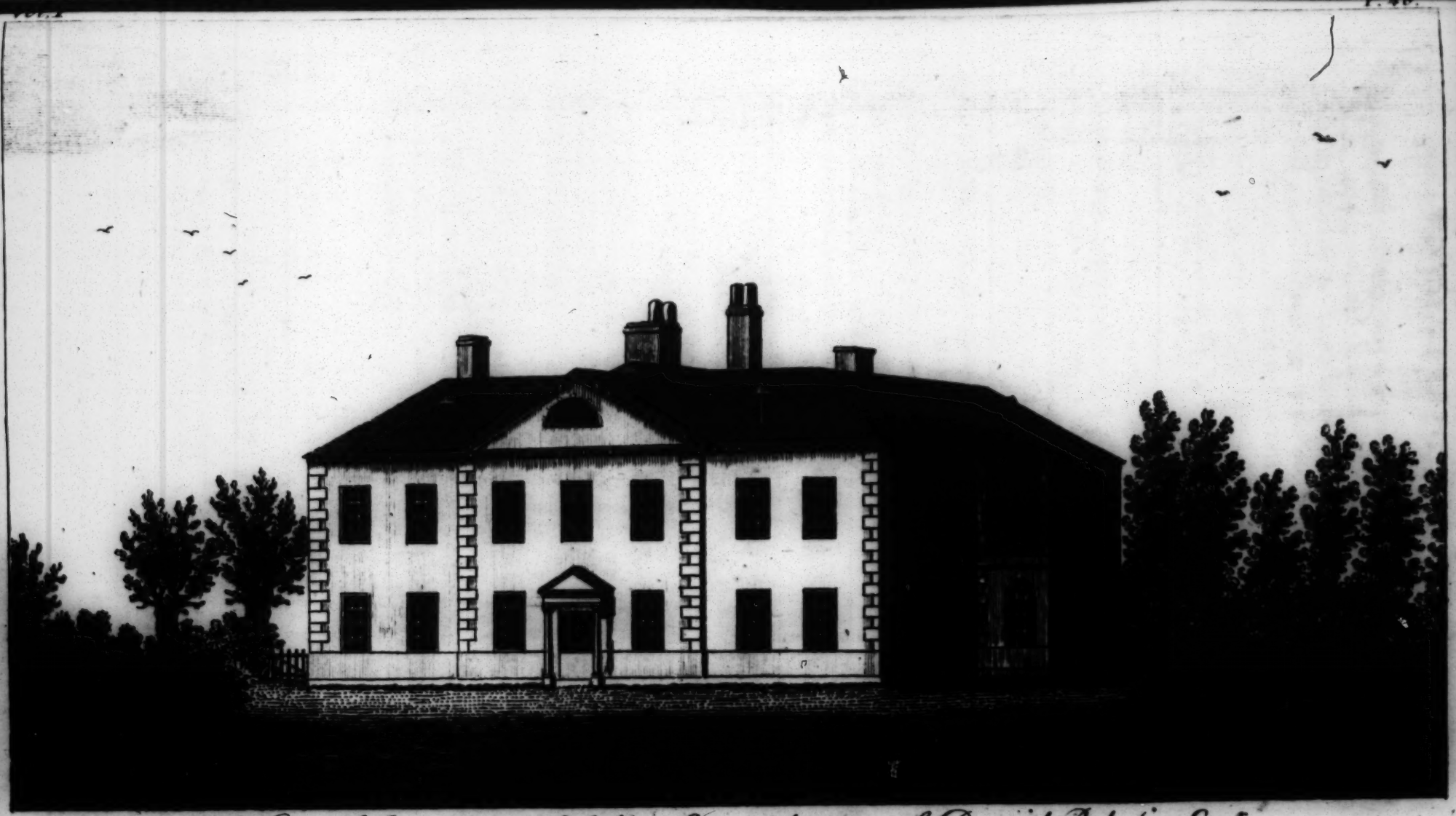
BRENTWOOD, or BURNTWOOD.

This is a poſt-town, in Eſſex, about eighteen miles from London, it is ſituated pleaſantly upon a hill, affords a pleaſing proſpect to the inhabitants, and of late is greatly improved in its buildings. As it is on the high road from London to Harwich, it is a great thoroughfare, and has ſome good inns in it. One of theſe, the Crown Inn, deſerves to be diſtinguiſhed for its antiquity. Mr. Simmonds, in his collections ſays, he was informed by the maſter, who had writings in his poſſeſſion to prove it, that it had been an inn for three hundred years with this ſign; that a family named Salmon held it two hundred years, and that there had been eighty-nine owners, amongſt which were an Earl of Oxford, and an Earl of Suſſex.

Here is a good market weekly on Thurſdays, and two fairs yearly for cattle and horſes, one on the 18th of July, and the other on the 15th of October. Here is a grammar-ſchool, which was founded in 1557, by Sir Anthony Brown; in which all boys of this pariſh, or any other pariſh within three miles of the ſchool-houſe, are taught grammar-learning gratis. Sir Anthony alſo founded five alms-houſes, for five ſingle poor perſons, three men and two women.

A chapel was founded at Brentwood about the year 1221, which was dedicated to Thomas a Becket; and the perquiſites of the chaplain chiefly aroſe from travellers upon the road, and ſuch as came out of devotion to *Saint* Thomas, as that ambitious and turbulent prieſt was ſtiled in an age of ignorance and ſuperſtition. From hence it aroſe, that a gate in this pariſh, in the way from Ongar, ſtill retains the name of *Pilgrim's Hatch*. Divine ſervice is now kept up in this chapel for the conveniency of the inhabitants of Brentwood, the pariſh church being near two miles diſtance.

Brentwood ſtands in the pariſh of *South Weald*, which is very extenſive, and contains ſome very handſome gentlemen's ſeats. Sir Thomas Parker, late Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, but now retired from public buſineſs, has a pleaſant ſeat here. Thomas Towers, Eſq; Lord of the Manor, has



A View of Greenstead Hall in Essex, the Seat of David Reboher Esq.

has alſo a very elegant ſeat near the church, adorned with rich plantations, handſome gardens, a good park, &c. in which latter is built a proſpect houſe, in the form of a tower, embattled, affording a moſt delightful view. The Hon. Captain Hamilton has alſo an agreeable ſeat here. And on Weald Side Common is a ſeat called *Ditchley's*, the reſidence of George Nicholls, Eſq; adjoining to which is the ſeat of Anthony Wright, Eſq. At Pilgrim Hatch is *Dounſell's*, the ſeat of Francis Manby, Eſq. Beſides theſe, there are many very good houſes, that cannot properly be called ſeats, but which are either the reſidence or retirement of families of conſiderable fortune.—On the London road is a bridge called *Puttal's*, ſupported by Thomas Towers, Eſq; and at the bottom of Weald-ſide common is another bridge, called *Wright's*; through which bridges runs a rivulet, ſeparating Havering and Romford from this pariſh.

South Weald church ſtands on an hill, from whence is a fine proſpect. It is an handſome building, conſiſting of two paces, ſupported in the middle by five pillars of the Tuſcan order. At the weſt end there is a ſtrong tower of conſiderable height, embattled, in which are five bells. This tower was built in the beginning of King Henry the Seventh's reign.

The Saxon word *Weald*, ſignifies *Wood*, and this place is ſuppoſed to have been one of the firſt inhabited parts of Eſſex. —By the ſouth ſide of Weald-hall park there is a camp, incloſing about ſeventeen acres; it is circular, ſingle ditched, and thought to have been a Roman ſummer camp, or *Caſtræ Æxploratorum*.—There are horſe races every year on Warley-common, which is at a little diſtance from Brentwood.

HAVERING-AT-BOWER.

This place, which is about three miles from Romford, is ſaid to have derived its name from the following marvellous ſtory, which may amuſe our readers, though we preſume but few of them will give credit to it. We are told, that as the church of Clavering, in this county, was conſecrating, and was to be dedicated to Chriſt and St. John the Evangeliſt, King Edward the Confeſſor riding that way, alighted, out of devotion, to be preſent at the conſecration. During the proceſſion, a *fair old man* came to the King, and begged alms of him in the name of God, and St. John the Evangeliſt. The King having nothing elſe to give, as his almoner was not at hand, took the ring from his finger, and gave it the

poor man. Some years after, two Engliſh pilgrims having loſt their way as they were travelling to the Holy Land, they ſaw a company cloathed in white, with two lights carried before them; and behind them came *a fair ancient man.* The pilgrims joining them, the old man enquired who they were, and whence they came. After hearing their ſtory, he brought them into a fine city, where was a room furniſhed with all manner of dainties; when they had well refreſhed themſelves, and reſted there all night, the old man ſet them again in the right way. And at parting, he told them he was John the Evangeliſt; adding, as the Legend goes on; "Say ye unto Edward your King, that I greet him well by the token that he gave to me this ring with his own hands at the hallowing of my church, which ring ye ſhall deliver him again. And ſay ye to him, that he diſpoſe his goods, for within ſix months he ſhall be in the joy of heaven with me, where he ſhall have his reward for his chaſtity, and for his good living." At their return home the two pilgrims waited upon the King, who was then at this bower, and delivered to him the meſſage, and the ring, from which circumſtance this place is ſaid to have received the name of Have-ring. This relation, however ridiculous, gained ſo great credit in that age, as to occaſion the whole ſtory to be wrought in baſſo relievo in the chapel at Weſtminſter, where Edward the Confeſſor lies buried, on the back of the ſkreen that divides it from the altar. The ſtatues of the king and the pilgrims are alſo over the courts of king's bench and common pleas, in Weſtminſter Hall; and over the gate going into Dean's-yard. His picture was alſo on the glaſs of the eaſt window of the ſouth iſle of Romford chapel, with two pilgrims, and under it, *Johannes per peregrino miſit Regis Edwardo.* A good picture of him is now on the glaſs of the chancel window of that chapel; renewed in 1707. The ring pretended to have been given by him, as above, to St. John, was depoſited among other reliques in his Abbey at Weſtminſter.

This was anciently a retiring place for ſeveral of our Saxon kings: particularly of Edward the Confeſſor, who took great delight in it, on account of its gloomy and ſolitary aſpect, it being at that time woody, and therefore he thought it ſuited well his private devotions. This place has been very productive of extraordinary ſtories; and accordingly the legend ſays, it abounded ſo with warbling nightingales, that they diſturbed King Edward the Confeſſor in his devotions, inſomuch

much that he earneſtly prayed for their removal; ſince which time, according to many of the ſage people of this neighbourhood, no nightingales have ever been heard to ſing in the park, as in other places; but that many were heard without the pales. Near the remains of the royal houſe ſtands Havering chapel, dedicated to St. John the Evangeliſt. It is a ſmall building of one pace with the chancel, the whole tiled.—Beſides the place of Havering Bower, here was another at Pirgo, which belonged to the Queens of England; where they reſided at their own conveniency, or perhaps during their widowhood, Havering being uſually part of the queen's jointure.—Lord Archer is owner of the fine ſeat at *Pirgo*; the houſe is an antient venerable ſtructure, within a conſiderable park. Here is a ſmall chapel belonging to this ſeat.

ROMFORD.

This town is ſix miles from Brentwood, and twelve from London. It is pretty large, and conſiſts chiefly of one ſtreet, near half a mile in length, at the upper part of which is held a market every Tueſday for live calves; on each Wedneſday a general market, and in the winter ſeaſon, on Mondays, a market for live hogs. Here is a fair annually, upon Midſummer Day, for cattle and horſes. About the middle of the town ſtands a good market-houſe, and a town-hall. This is a poſt-town, and the greateſt thoroughfare in the county. Here is a chapel which ſtands nearly in the center of the town, and is a ſpacious ſtone building. In Romford-ſtreet near the turnpike, is a charity ſchool, which was erected by ſubſcription in 1710. It is a neat brick building, in which forty boys and twenty girls are educated.

About half a mile out of Romford, on the road leading to Brentwood, ſtands *Geddy-Hall*, the ſeat of Richard Benyon, Eſq; formerly Governor of Fort St. George. It is a noble manſion, and is ſurrounded by a pleaſant park and beautiful gardens, plentifully watered by a fine canal.

About four miles from Romford is the pariſh of *Cranham*, wherein General Oglethorpe, famous for ſettling the colony of Georgia, has a ſeat. The houſe, which is a large antique building, is named *Cranham Hall*. This place is ſuppoſed to have derived its name of *Cranham* from a reſort of cranes here, the hawking of which was an ancient ſport. And if we were to judge from the bills of fare into which cranes came, and the price of proviſions, remarked by our hiſtorians,

in the time of King Edward I. we muſt imagine the ſtomachs of the people of that fighting age to be of a ſtrange tone. For when a gooſe ſold for four-pence, a crane ſold for twelve-pence; and King William Rufus is ſaid to have turned off his major-domo, for ſetting before him a *crane* half roaſted.

In the pariſh of *Dagenham*, at the diſtance of fifteen miles from London, the late Henry Muilman, Eſq; had an handſome ſeat. The building is of brick, ſpacious, ſurrounded by a park, and commanding an agreeable proſpect.—*Dagenham Breach* was made here upwards of fifty years ago, by the Thames, which overflowed one thouſand acres of rich land; but, after near ten years inundation, during which the works were ſeveral times blown up, it was at laſt ſtopped by Captain Perry, who had been employed ſeveral years in the Czar of Muſcovy's works at Veronitza; but the expence attending this amounted to more than forty thouſand pounds.

B E R K I N G.

This is the neareſt market-town in the county of Eſſex to London, from which it is only eight miles diſtance, and ſeven from Romford. The town is of conſiderable extent, and chiefly inhabited by fiſhermen, whoſe boats, called ſmacks, lie at the mouth of the river Thames, from whence their fiſh is ſent up to Billingſgate. The market is held on Saturdays; and a fair is held here annually on the 22d of October, for horſes. It was to this place that King William the Conqueror retired, ſoon after his coronation, till he had erected forts in London to awe the inhabitants of that city.

At this place Erkenwald, the fourth biſhop of London, founded the ſecond nunnery of the Saxons in England*, in the year 666. It was of the order of St. Benedict, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Ethelburga, the firſt abbeſs, (ſiſter to the founder) who, with her ſucceſſor, was canonized. It ſtood on the north ſide of the church-yard. One gate, and part of the wall is ſtill remaining.

The manor of Berking, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, belonged to Sir William Hewett, who was Lord Mayor of London in 1589, and concerning whom the following ſtory

* Folkſtone nunnery was the firſt, which was founded thirty-ſix years before.

is



A View of the Seat of the late Henry Muilman Esq.r at Dagenham in Essex.

is related. Sir William lived upon London-bridge, and had an infant daughter. One of his maids playing with this child out of a window over the river Thames, by chance dropped her in, almoſt beyond expectation of being ſaved. A young gentleman, named Edward Osborne, then apprentice to Sir William, at this calamitous accident leaped in boldly, and ſaved the child. In memory of which deliverance, and in gratitude, her father afterwards beſtowed her in marriage to the ſaid Mr. Osborne, with a very great dowry. Several perſons of quality courted the young lady, and particularly the Earl of Shrewsbury. But Sir William Hewett ſaid, "Osborne ſaved "her, and Osborne ſhould enjoy her." This Mr. Osborne was anceſtor to the preſent Duke of Leeds.

The pariſh of Berking is large, and ſo much improved, by lands recovered from the Thames and the river Roding, that the great and ſmall tithes are computed at above 600l. a year.—A little beyond the town, towards Dagenham, ſtood a great old houſe, where the gunpowder plot is ſaid to have been contrived.—About four miles north from Berking church, Charles Raymond, Eſq; who was high ſheriff for the county in 1771, has a fine ſeat, named *Valentines*, which has been termed a cabinet of curioſities. The houſe is one of the neateſt, and beſt adapted to its ſize, of any modern one in the county: its ornaments are well choſen, and the grounds belonging to it laid out with great judgment and taſte.—Bamber Gaſcoyne, Eſq; has alſo a good houſe about a quarter of a mile ſouth-eaſt from the church, named *Biffrons*, which commands a fine proſpect, and behind it is a pretty park.

LITTLE ILFORD.

The village of Little Ilford is three miles from Berking; it is but ſmall, conſiſting only of one ſtreet, which on Sundays many citizens of London and others reſort to for an airing; and the little traffic occaſioned thereby is the chief ſupport of its inhabitants.—Little Ilford church is ſmall, but neat; and at the north-weſt corner of it the Lethieuller family has erected a very neat room, about fifteen feet ſquare, ſeparated from the church by an iron gate. It has a fire place, and every convenience to accommodate the family when they attend divine ſervice. The pavement is of free-ſtone, and beneath it is the family vault. Along the north ſide of this room is a capital, ſupported by columns of the Doric order; it is aſcended by two ſteps; and between the columns is a very

very neat altar-tomb of black and white marble, ſupporting a beautiful marble urn of various colours. This monument is in memory of John Lethieuller, Eſq. There are ſeveral other monuments here to perſons of the ſame family, but the only one that we ſhall particularly mention, is that erected to the memory of Smart Lethieuller, Eſq; a gentleman much diſtinguiſhed for his skill in antiquities: and we ſhall inſert the inſcription on his tomb, becauſe it is remarkable for propriety and elegance. It is as follows:

In memory of
SMART LETHIEULLER, Eſq;
A Gentleman of polite Literature and elegant Taſte,
An Encourager of Art and ingenious Artiſts,
A ſtudious Promoter of Literary Enquiries;
A Companion, and a Friend, of learned Men;
Judiciouſly verſed in Science of Antiquity,
And richly poſſeſſed of the curious productions of Nature.
But
Who modeſtly deſired no other Inſcription on his
Tomb, than what he had made the Rule of his Life;
To do juſtly,
To love Mercy,
And to walk humbly with God.
He was born Nov. 3, 1701.
And deceaſed without iſſue Aug. 27, 1760.

The moſt elegant ſimplicity runs through every part of this place, which is ſo well calculated to inſpire ſerious contemplation, that few edifices of the kind are equal to it.

LEYTON.

This is a ſtraggling village by the river Lea, about ſix miles from London. There are ſeveral handſome ſeats in the pariſh, belonging to wealthy citizens and other gentlemen, particularly Goring-houſe, alſo called the Foreſt-houſe, which is loftily ſituated fronting Epping-foreſt, and is the property of Samuel Boſanquet, Eſq. The manor-houſe of Leyton, which is a fine ſeat, is the property of Thomas Blaydon, Eſq.—About a quarter of a mile north-eaſt from the church Thomas Oliver, Eſq; has a beautiful ſeat, which formerly belonged to Sir Fiſher Tench. It is a modern ſtructure, adorned with large and delightful gardens, with plantations, walks, groves, mounts, and canals, ſtocked with fiſh and fowl. The ſeat of Henry More, Eſq; near half a mile weſt from the church,

is

is alſo very agreeably ſituated. The houſe is large and handſome, and the gardens and decorations belonging to it are ſuitable.

One part of this pariſh is called *Leyton-ſtone*, which is in a pleaſant and healthy ſituation; and the number of inhabitants here being greatly increaſed, a chapel of eaſe has been built for their convenience. It is ſomewhat ſingular that the pariſh of Walthamſtow ſhould have a piece of ground about fifty yards wide, which runs directly in a ſtraight line through this pariſh. —Here ſeems to have been a Roman villa, or ſome ſummer camp or ſtation; for between the manor-houſe and the canal, where the garden now is, in digging were found old foundations, with a great many Roman bricks, intermixed with others, and ſeveral medals. And in enlarging the horſe-pond, huge foundations were diſcovered ſix feet under ground; and a large arched gate with mouldings nine or ten feet high, and five or ſix broad, the top of which was alſo ſix feet under ground. The walls were four feet thick or more. A very large urn, with aſhes and bones, was taken up in the church-yard in digging a deep grave. Several urns, with aſhes in them, have been alſo found on the ſouth ſide of Blind-lane, near Rockholts, in digging for gravel.

There are ſeveral very handſome monuments in Leyton church and church-yard.—That indefatigable antiquarian, Mr. John Strype, was vicar of this pariſh. The famous Sir Thomas Roe, ambaſſador to the Great Mogul, the Grand Signior, and ſeveral European princes, in the reign of King James I. was born in this pariſh. In this great man the accompliſhments of the ſcholar, the gentleman, and the ſtateſman, were eminently united. During his reſidence in the Mogul's court, he zealouſly promoted the trading intereſt of this kingdom, for which the Eaſt India Company is indebted to him to this day. In his embaſſy to the Grand Signior, he collected many valuable Greek and oriental manuſcripts, which he preſented to the Bodleian library, to which he left his valuable collection of coins. The fine Alexandrian M.S. of the Greek Bible was procured by his means.

WEST-HAM.

This pariſh, which joins to Leyton, is four miles diſtant from London. It includes *Stratford*, anciently ſurnamed *Langthorne*, and is parted from Middleſex on the ſouth, and from St. Mary Stratford-le-Bow, by the river Lea, over which there are five bridges in this pariſh, Bow-bridge, which is

one

one of them, received the name of *Bow*, or *arched*, bridge, becauſe it was the firſt arched ſtone bridge in the county. The occaſion of its being built is thus related. The ancient road from this county to London was by *Old Ford*; that is, through the ford there without a bridge. But that paſſage being difficult and dangerous, and many perſons loſing their lives, or being thoroughly wetted, which happened to be the caſe with Maud, Queen to King Henry I. ſhe turned the road from Old Ford, to the place where it is now, and made the cauſeways, and built the bridges at her own charge. And for the keeping of them in repair, ſhe gave to the abbeſs of Berking certain manors, and a mill called Wiggan-mill.

The pariſh of Weſt-Ham is divided into four wards; namely, *Churd-ward*, *Stratford Langthorns*, *Plaiſtow-ward*, and that of *Upton*. Its ſituation is not high, nor yet very low, but in general healthy; and at the lower part of Plaiſtow affords a beautiful view of the river Thames, and the county of Kent for many miles.—This pariſh is divided from the county of Kent by the river Thames.—From its vicinity to the metropolis, and from the conveniency which it has of water-carriage, a number of wealthy merchants, traders, and induſtrious artiſts have choſen it for their reſidence; by which means of late years the buildings have been much increaſed; particularly by the addition of two ſmall new-built hamlets, if they may be thus called, on the Foreſt-ſide. Theſe are Maryland-point and the Gravel-pits; one facing the road to Epping, and that to Chelmsford. *Maryland-point* is a cluſter of houſes near Stratford; the firſt of them were erected by a merchant, who had got a fortune in that colony, from whence they took their name.—*Stratford*, (i. e. the *ſtreet at the ford*) is a very large and conſiderable hamlet in this pariſh; and diſtinguiſhed from the other adjoining, Stratford at Bow, lying on the weſt ſide of Bow-bridge, in the county of Middleſex, by the appellation of *Langton*, or *Langthorn*. *Plaiſtow hamlet* lies ſouth of the church, and Upton north of the ſame.

About half a mile ſouth-ſouth-weſt from the church, are the remains of *Stratford-abbey*, once a conſiderable monaſtery here, and part of the old gate of which is ſtill ſtanding. This monaſtery was founded about the year 1134, by William Montfichet, for the monks of the Ciſtertion order, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and All Saints. Its demeſnes in this pariſh comprehend 1500 acres.—Weſt-ham church, which is dedicated to All Staints, is large; both church and chancel

having north and ſouth iſles: there are ſeveral monuments in it, two of which are ancient.

EAST-HAM.

The ſituation of this pariſh is rather low, and its ſoil gravelly, except in the marſhes. Several wealthy citizens and other gentlemen reſide in it, on which account it has ſeveral good houſes in it.——A tradition prevails here, that the houſe called *Green-ſtreet*, (late the ſeat of Sir Nicholas Gerard, and now belonging to Mrs. Whiteſide) was once the habitation of an Earl of Weſtmoreland, and probably of Lady Latimer.——Tradition likewiſe ſays that Queen Anne Boleyn was confined in a tower ſtill ſtanding near the ſaid houſe.———One of the moſt remarkable particulars here is, the ſpring called *Miller's Well*, the water of which is eſteemed to be extremely good, and has not ever been known to be frozen, or to have varied in its height, either in ſummer or in winter.——A part of Kent, in the pariſh of Woolwich, lies on this ſide the river, and divides this pariſh from the Thames.

DEPTFORD.

This is a large and populous town in the county of Kent, about four miles and an half from London. It was anciently called Weſt Greenwich; and is ſaid to have received its preſent name, from its having a deep ford over the little river Ravenſbourn, near its influx into the Thames, where it has now a bridge. It is divided into Upper and Lower Deptford, which contain together two churches, ſeveral meeting-houſes, and about 1900 houſes. It is moſt remarkable for its noble dock, where the royal navy was formerly built and repaired, till it was found more convenient to build the larger ſhips at Woolwich, and other places, where there is a greater depth of water; but notwithſtanding this, the yard is enlarged to more than double its former dimenſions, and a vaſt number of hands are conſtantly employed. It has a wet dock of two acres for ſhips, and another of an acre and an half, with vaſt quantities of timber and other ſtores, and extenſive buildings, as ſtore-houſes, and offices, for the uſe of the place; beſides dwelling-houſes for thoſe officers who are obliged to live upon the ſpot, in order to ſuperintend the works. Here the royal yachts are generally kept; and near the dock is the ſeat of Sir John Evelyn, called Says Court, where that juſtly celebrated Prince, Peter the Great, Czar of Muſcovy, reſided for ſome time; and in this yard completed

his knowledge and ſkill in the practical part of naval architecture.

In this town are two hoſpitals, one of which was incorporated by King Henry VIII. in the form of a college, for the uſe of ſeamen, and is commonly called *Trinity Houſe* of Deptford Strond: this contains twenty-one houſes, and is ſituated near the church. The other, called *Trinity Hoſpital*, has thirty-eight houſes fronting the ſtreet. This is a very handſome edifice, and has large gardens well kept belonging to it. Though this laſt is the fineſt ſtructure, yet the other has the preference, on account of its antiquity; and as the Brethren of the Trinity hold their coporation by that houſe, they are obliged, at certain times, to meet there for buſineſs. Both theſe houſes are for decayed pilots, or maſters of ſhips, or their widows; the men being allowed twenty ſhillings, and the women ſixteen ſhillings, a month.

Trinity Houſe was founded in the year 1515, by Sir Thomas Spert, Knight, commander of the great ſhip Henry Grace de Dieu, and comptroller of the Navy, for the regulation of ſeamen, and the convenience of ſhips and mariners on our coaſt, and incorporated, as we we before obſerved, by Henry VIII. who confirmed to them not only the antient rights and privileges of the company of mariners of England, but their ſeveral poſſeſſions at Deptford; which, together with the grants of Queen Elizabeth, and King Charles II. were alſo confirmed by letters patent of the firſt of James II. in 1685. The maſter, wardens, aſſiſtants, and elder brethren of this corporation, are by charter inveſted with the power of examining the maſters of his Majeſty's ſhips, and alſo the mathematical children of Chriſt's hoſpital; of appointing pilots to conduct ſhips in and out of the river Thames; and of ame cing all ſuch as ſhall preſume to act as maſters of ſhips of war, or pilots, without their approbation. It is their buſineſs alſo to ſettle the ſeveral rates of pilotage, and erect light-houſes, and other ſea-marks, upon the ſeveral coaſts of the kingdom, for the ſecurity of navigation; to which light-houſes all ſhips pay one halfpenny a ton. They are likewiſe impowered to grant licences to poor ſeamen, not free of the city, to row on the river Thames for their ſupport, in the intervals of ſea-ſervice, or when paſt going to ſea; and to prevent aliens from ſerving on board Engliſh ſhips, without their licence, upon the penalty of 5l. for each offence. They are likewiſe authoriſed to puniſh ſeamen for deſertion, or mutiny, in the merchants ſervice; and to hear and determine the complaints

plaints of officers and ſeamen in the merchants ſervice; but ſubject to an appeal to the Lords of the Admiralty, or the judge of the Court of Admiralty. To this company belongs the Ballaſt-Office for clearing and deepening the river Thames, by taking from thence a ſufficient quantity of ballaſt for the ſupply of all ſhips that ſail out of that river; in which ſervice ſixty barges, with two men in each, are conſtantly employed, and all ſhips that take in ballaſt pay them 1s. a ton, for which it is brought to the ſhips ſides.——We have been the more particular in enumerating the powers, and the buſineſs, of this corporation, becauſe its authority and powers are of ſo extenſive a nature, and of ſo much importance to us as a maritime ſtate. We ſhall, therefore, further obſerve, that there are annually relieved by this company about 3000 poor ſeamen, their widows, and orphans; and this, as it is ſaid, at the expence of about 6000l. They meet frequently at their houſe in Water-lane, Thames-ſtreet, generally on Wednesdays and Saturdays; but their courts are not conſtantly fixed to a ſet time. Their houſe in Water-lane has been twice burnt down, once at the fire of London, and the laſt time in the year 1718. Among the curioſities preſerved in the hall of this building, is a flag taken from the Spaniards by the famous Sir Francis Drake, whoſe picture is alſo there; a large and exact model of a ſhip entirely rigged, and two large globes; and in the parlour are five large drawings, curiouſly performed by the pen, of ſeveral engagements at ſea in the reign of Charles the Second.

GREENWICH.

This town, which is chiefly famous for its fine hoſpital and park, is ſaid to contain upwards of 1300 houſes. Its pariſh church, which has been lately rebuilt by the commiſſioners for erecting the fifty new churches, is a very handſome ſtructure, dedicated to St. Alphage, Archbiſhop of Canterbury, who is ſaid to have been ſlain by the Danes in the year 1012, on the ſpot where the church now ſtands. There is a college at the end of the town, fronting the Thames, for the maintenance of twenty decayed old houſekeepers, twelve out of Greenwich, and eight who are to be alternately choſen from Snottiſham and Caſtle Riſing in Norfolk. This is called the Duke of Norfolk's College, though it was founded, and endowed, in 1613, by Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton, the Duke of Norfolk's brother, and by him committed to the care of the mercers company. There is a chapel belong-

ing to this College, in which the Earl's body is laid, which, as well as his monument, was removed hither a few years ago, from the chapel of Dover caſtle, of which he was conſtable. In the year 1560, Mr. John Lombard, author of the Perambulation of Kent, alſo built and founded an hoſpital here, for twenty-two perſons, called Queen Elizabeth's College. This is ſaid to be the firſt hoſpital founded by an Engliſh Proteſtant. There are likewiſe two charity-ſchools in this pariſh, one founded by Sir William Boreman, and the other by John Roan. A market was erected in this town in the year 1737, the direction of which is in the governors of the Royal Hoſpital, to which the profits ariſing from it were appropriated. The market days are Wedneſdays and Saturdays.

Greenwich has been the reſidence of ſeveral of our Monarchs. King Henry VIII. and the Queens Mary and Elizabeth, were born here; and that excellent young Monarch, Edward VI. died here. The palace was firſt erected by Humphry, Duke of Glouceſter, who named it Placentia. King Edward IV. beſtowed conſiderable ſums of money in enlarging and beautifying it, in which he was followed by King Henry VII. But it was completed by Henry VIII. who often kept his Chriſtmas, and other great feſtivals, at this place, with magnificent jouſts and tournaments: and the ground, which was called the Tilt-yard, is the ſpot on which the Eaſt wing of the Royal hoſpital is built. But this palace being afterwards ſuffered to run to ruin, was pulled down by King Charles II. who began another, a moſt magnificent edifice, and lived to ſee the firſt wing finiſhed. But this was afterwards converted into a part of the Royal Hoſpital: and that which is properly the palace here now, is an edifice of no great extent, and is at preſent converted into apartments for the governor of the hoſpital, and the ranger of the park.

The park is well ſtocked with deer, and affords a noble and delightful view of the Hoſpital, the river Thames, and the city of London. This park was enlarged by King Charles II. who walled it round, planted it, and cauſed a royal obſervatory to be erected on the top of the ſteep of the hill. This edifice his Majeſty erected for the uſe of the celebrated Mr. John Flamſtead, and it ſtill retains the name of that eminent aſtronomer. King Charles likewiſe furniſhed it with mathematical inſtruments for aſtronomical obſervations, and a deep dry well for obſerving the ſtars in the day time.



A View from One-Tree Hill in Greenwich Park.



Greenwich Hospital.

time.—This park is much reſorted to in the Eaſter and Whitſun holidays, by young men and women from London and the neighbourhood, who divert themſelves by running down the hills, and other rural ſports.

The *Royal Hoſpital* at Greenwich is ſo magnificent a ſtructure, that it can ſcarcely be taken for any thing leſs than the palace of a great monarch. Indeed, the wing which King Charles the Second deſigned for the Palace, is now the firſt wing of the hoſpital towards London. For King William the Third being very deſirous of promoting the commerce, navigation, and naval ſtrength of this kingdom, by inviting great numbers of his ſubjects to betake themſelves to the ſea, gave this noble palace, and ſeveral other edifices, with a conſiderable ſpot of ground, for the uſe of thoſe Engliſh ſeamen and their children, who by age, wounds, and other accidents, ſhould be diſabled from farther ſervice at ſea; and for the widows and children of ſuch as were ſlain at ſea, fighting againſt the enemies of their country. King William alſo by his letters patent, in 1694, appointed commiſſioners for the better carrying on his public-ſpirited and laudable deſign, in which he deſired the aſſiſtance of his ſubjects, as the neceſſities of his affairs did not permit him to advance ſo conſiderable a ſum towards this work as he deſired, and as was requiſite for the purpoſe. In compliance with this requeſt, many benefactions were made to this noble charity, both in that and the ſucceeding reigns; which, according to the tables hung up at the entrance of the hall, amount to 58,209l. And afterwards the eſtate of the Earl of Derwentwater, which was forfeited by that nobleman's being concerned in the rebellion in 1715, and which amounted to 6000l. per annum, was given by parliament to this hoſpital. The firſt range had coſt King Charles II. 36,000l. and another was ordered to be built on the ſame model. This has been completed with equal magnificence, and the whole ſtructure entirely finiſhed.

The front to the Thames conſiſts of theſe two ranges of ſtone buildings, with the Governor's houſe at the back part of the center, behind which the park, well planted with trees, riſes with a noble aſcent. Theſe buildings, between which is a large area, perfectly correſpond with each other, and each range is terminated by a very noble dome. In each front to the Thames, two ranges of coupled Corinthian columns, finely wrought, ſupport their pediments, and the ſame order is continued in pilaſters along the building. In the center of each part,

part, between theſe ranges of Corinthian columns, is the door, which is of the Doric order. The buildings which are continued from thoſe of which we have juſt been ſpeaking, and which face the area, correſpond with them, though in a more fine and elegant manner. In the center of both is a range of columns ſupporting a pediment, and at each corner a range of Corinthian pilaſters. The front is ruſticated, and there are two ſeries of windows. The domes at the end, which are one hundred and twenty feet high, are ſupported on coupled columns, as are the porticoes below; and under one of theſe is the chapel, which is adorned on the inſide with the utmoſt elegance and beauty. On the ſides of the gate which opens to theſe buildings from the park, are placed a large celeſtial and terreſtrial globe; and in the center of the area is fixed on a pedeſtal, a ſtatue of our late excellent Monarch, King George II.

The Hall of this Hoſpital, which is very noble, is finely painted by Sir James Thornhill. At the upper end of it are repreſented, in an alcove, the late Princeſs Sophia, King George I. King George II. Queen Caroline, the Queen Dowager of Pruſſia, Frederic, Prince of Wales, the late Duke of Cumberland, and the five Princeſſes, the daughters of his late Majeſty. On the cieling over the alcove are Queen Anne and Prince George of Denmark: and on the cieling of the Hall are King William and Queen Mary, with ſeveral fine emblematical figures. All ſtrangers who ſee this hall pay two-pence each, and this income is applied to the ſupport of the mathematical ſchool, for the ſons of ſailors.

In the year 1705, an hundred diſabled ſeamen were the firſt that were received into this hoſpital; but it at preſent contains near two thouſand diſabled ſeamen, and an hundred boys, the ſons of ſeamen, who are inſtructed in navigation, and bred up for the ſervice of the royal navy; but there are no out-penſioners, as at Chelſea. Each of the mariners has a weekly allowance of ſeven loaves, weighing ſixteen ounces each; three pounds of beef, two of mutton; a pint of peaſe; a pound and a quarter of cheeſe; two ounces of butter; fourteen quarts of beer; and one ſhilling a week tobacco money. The tobacco money of the boatſwains is 2s. 6d. a week each; that of their mates 1s. 6d. and that of the other officers in proportion to their rank. Beſides which each common penſioner is completely cloathed once in two years.

For the better ſupport of this hoſpital, every ſeaman in the Royal

Royal Navy, and in the ſervice of the merchants, pays 6d. a month. This is ſtopped out of the pay of all ſailors, and delivered at the ſixpenny receiver's Office on Tower-hill. And therefore a ſeaman who can produce an authentic certificate of his being diſabled, and rendered unfit for the ſea-ſervice, by defending any ſhip belonging to Britiſh ſubjects, or in taking any ſhip from the enemy, may be admitted into this hoſpital, and receive the ſame benefit from it, as if he had been in the immediate ſervice of the government. The hoſpital has about an hundred Governors, compoſed of the Nobility, great Officers of ſtate, and perſons in conſiderable poſts under the King.

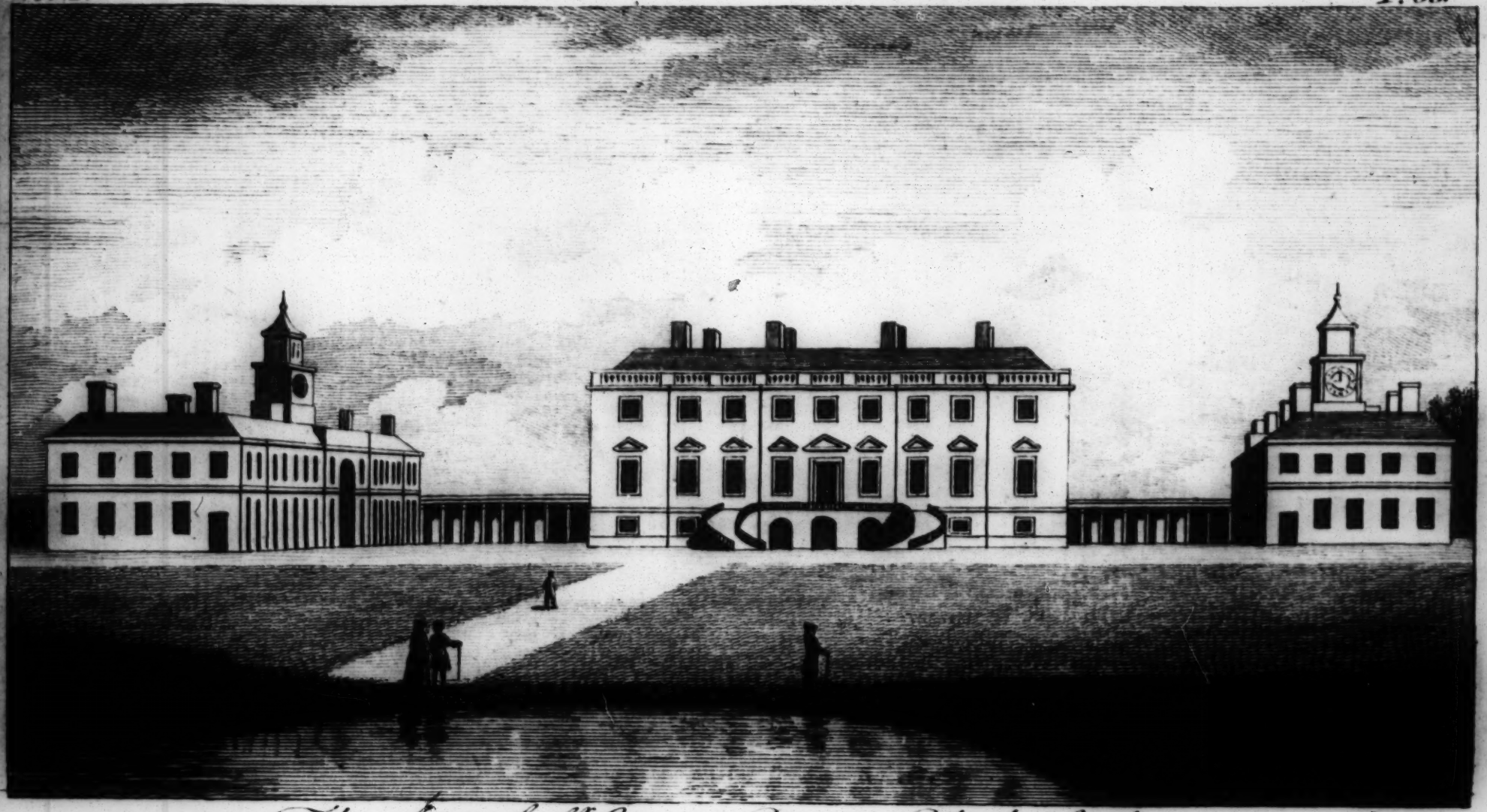
On the ſouth ſide of Greenwich lies *Blackheath*, a large plain ſo called from the blackneſs of its ſoil. It is much admired for the beauty of its ſituation, and its excellent air; and has been rendered memorable by being the theatre of ſeveral remarkable tranſactions. It was here the Daniſh army lay a conſiderable time encamped in the year 1011, and it was here that the famous Wat Tyler, the Kentiſh rebel, muſtered 100,000 men. Jack Cade alſo, who ſtiled himſelf John Mortimer, and laid claim to the crown, pretending that he was kinſman to the Duke of York, encamped on this heath for a month together in this and the neighbouring counties, in 1451. And the following year King Henry VI. pitched his royal pavilion here, having aſſembled troops to withſtand the force of his couſin, Edward, Duke of York, who was afterwards King Edward IV. And here againſt that King did the baſtard Falconbridge likewiſe encamp. And in 1497, the Lord Audley, Flemmock, an Attorney, and Joſeph the Blackſmith, encamped on this place, in the rebellion they raiſed againſt King Henry VII. And here that politic and warlike Prince routed them, killing above 2000 on the ſpot, and taking about 14000 priſoners.

In 1415, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London, with 400 citizens in ſcarlet, and with red and white hoods on, came to Blackheath, where they met that victorious Prince King Henry the Vth, who had juſt returned from France, after the famous battle of Agincourt; and from Blackheath they conducted his Majeſty to London. And in 1474, the Lord-Mayor and Aldermen, attended by 500 citizens, alſo met King Edward IV. here, on his return from France. It appears alſo to have been uſal formerly to meet foreign Princes,

and

and other perſons of high rank, on Blackheath, on their arrival in England. On the 21ſt of December, 1411, Maurice, Emperor of Conſtantinople, who came to ſolicit aſſiſtance againſt the Turks, was met here with great magnificence by King Henry IV. And in 1416, the Emperor Sigiſmund was met here and from hence conducted in great pomp to London. In 1518, the Lord-Admiral of France, and the Archbiſhop of Paris, both Ambaſſadors from the French King, with above 1200 attendants, were met here by the Admiral of England, and above 500 gentlemen. And the following year Cardinal Campejus, the Pope's legate, being attended hither by the gentlemen of Kent, was met by the Duke of Norfolk, and many Noblemen and Prelates of England; and here in a tent of cloth and gold, he put on his Cardinal's robes richly ermined, and from hence rode to London. And here alſo King Henry VIII. met the Princeſs Ann of Cleves, in very great ſtate and pomp, and was ſoon after married to her.

On the Eaſt-ſide of Blackheath ſtands *Morden College*, erected for the ſupport of poor decayed Merchants, by Sir John Morden, Bart. a Turkey-merchant, ſeveral years before his death, which happened in the year 1708. It conſiſts of a large brick building, with two ſmall wings, ſtrengthened at the corners with ſtone ruſtic. The principal entrance, which is in the center, is decorated with Doric columns, feſtoons, and a pediment on the top, over which riſes a turret, with a dial; and from the dome, which is ſupported by ſcrolls, riſes a ball and fane. To this entrance there is an aſcent by a flight of circular ſteps; and having aſcended them, and paſſed through this part of the building, we enter an inner ſquare ſurrounded with piazzas. The chapel is neatly wainſcotted, and has a coſtly altar-piece; and it has a burying-place adjoining, for the members of the college. The founder, by his own deſire, was buried in a vault under the communion table of the chapel. Sir John Morden erected his college at a ſmall diſtance from his own habitation, in a place called Great Stone Field, and endowed it, after his Lady's deceaſe, with his whole real, copyhold, and perſonal eſtate, to the value of about 1300l. per annum. He placed in this hoſpital twelve decayed Turkey merchants in his life time; but, after his deceaſe, the Lady Morden, finding that the ſhare allotted her by Sir John's laſt will, was not ſufficient for her decent ſupport, ſome parts of the eſtate not anſwering ſo



The Seat of S.r Gregory Page at Black-Heath.

well as had been expected, ſhe was obliged to reduce the number to four. But upon her death the whole eſtate coming to the college, the number was encreaſed, and there are at this time thirty-five poor gentlemen; and the number not being limited, it is to be encreaſed as the eſtate will afford; for the building will conveniently hold forty. The treaſurer is allowed 40l. a year; and the chaplain, who reads prayers twice a day, and preaches twice every Sunday, had at firſt a ſalary of 30l. per annum, which the Lady Morden doubled at her death. The preſent chaplain is the Rev. Mr. Moſes Brown, author of the Sunday Thoughts, Piſcatory Eclogues, and other pieces. Lady Morden was in ſeveral reſpects a benefactreſs to the college, and as ſhe put up her huſbands' ſtatue in a niche over the gate, the truſtees have put up hers in another niche, adjoining to that of her huſband. The treaſurer, chaplain, and penſioners, are obliged to reſide in the college; and, except in caſe of ſickneſs, no other perſons are to reſide, live, or lodge there; but no perſon can be admitted as a penſioner, who cannot make it appear that he is above ſixty years of age. The penſioners have each 20l. a year, and at firſt wore gowns, with the founders badge; but this badge has not been worn for ſome years. They have a common table in the hall to eat and drink together at meals; and each has a convenient apartment, with a cellar. Seven Turkey merchants have the direction of this hoſpital, and the nomination of the perſons to be admitted into it; to them the treaſurer is accountable, and whenever any of theſe die, the ſurviving truſtees chuſe others in their ſtead.

There are ſeveral noblemens and gentlemens ſeats on Blackheath; and in particular, thoſe of the Earl of Cheſterfield, and the Earl of Dartmouth. And not far from Morden College is a noble houſe built by Sir Gregory Page, Bart. This is a very magnificent edifice, built in the modern taſte, conſiſting of a baſement, ſtate, and attic ſtory. The wings contain the offices and ſtables, which are joined to the body of the houſe by a colonade. It ſtands in the midſt of a park; with a large piece of water before it. The back front has an Ionic portico of four columns, but having no pediment does not make ſo agreeable a figure as might be wiſhed. This is one of the fineſt ſeats in England belonging to a private gentleman; and the gardens, park, and country around, render it a moſt delightful ſeat: yet this fine edifice was begun, raiſed, and covered, in the ſpace of eleven months. It is adorned with many capital paintings; among which are the following;

Sampſon and Dalilah, by Vandyke; Juno and Ixion, by Rubens; Rubens and his miſtreſs, by Rubens himſelf; David and Abigal, by Rubens; the woman taken in Adultery, by Paul Veroneſe; Moſes and Pharaoh's daughter, by the ſame; a counſellor, his wife, and daughter, by Titian; and a Venus, Cupid, and ſatyrs, by Nich. Pouſſin.

Two fairs are held on Blackheath annually, one on the 12th of May, and another on the 11th of October, for bullocks, horſes, and toys.

On the ſouth ſide of Blackheath, and weſt of Sir Gregory Page's park, lies the pleaſant village of *Lee*; at the eaſt end of which, next Lee Green, is a pleaſant houſe and gardens of Henry Pelham, Eſq. and in the ſtreet of Lee are the houſes of the honourable Henry Roper and of David Papilion, Eſq. and of ſeveral other perſons of faſhion; and on the north ſide of the ſtreet, is an old ſeat of the Boone family, with the remains of a grove, and a pleaſant piece of water in the ground adjoining. The ſtrait road from London to Maidſtone is through Lee village. Between the pariſh of Lee, Eltham and Chiſlehurſt, is a hamlet called Modingham, in which is a ſmall ſeat of Lord Apſley, now lord chancellor, with pleaſant grounds about it; the beauty of the whole is owing to his lordſhip's improvements; and here is alſo a very old manſion which belonged to the ancient family of the Stoddards.

Between the village of Lee, and the ſummit of the hill, next Blackheath, are the elegant gardens and pleaſure grounds belonging to the villa of the late Sir Samuel Fludyer, Bart. now, or lately inhabited by Harry Verelſt, Eſq. ſome time governor of Bengal. The houſe is not large, but hath a very handſome apartment upon the firſt floor, towards the gardens and pleaſure grounds; and the proſpects from theſe rooms to Shooter's hill, Eltham, and Lee village, and into Sir Gregory Page's beautiful grounds and park, with the woods of Greenwich park ſkirting the view to the north, are moſt pictureſque and beautiful. The front of the houſe commands the Dulwich hill, with Lewiſham church placed in the very center of the view below them. On the ſummit of the hill next the heath ſtands the ancient church of Lee, very ſmall. The churchyard is neat, and much ornamented with coſtly monuments of ſtatuary and black marble. The great aſtronomer Dr. Edmund Hal-

Halley lies buried here under a plain table tomb, with an inſcription of ſome length in Latin. In the church, on the north of the communion table, is a ſtately arched monument of alabaſter, ſupported with columns of black marble of the Corinthian order. The rectory houſe, and that of Thomas Edlyne, Eſq; on the eminence near the church, command from every ſide of them very pleaſing views, the adjacent ground being highly improved, and the near and diſtant proſpects enriched with ſeats, farm-houſes, towns and villages; the Kentiſh and Dulwich hills in the front, and Blackheath and Greenwich park behind, with an extenſive view, over London and Weſtminſter, of the Middleſex hills, which bound the horizon to the north weſt.

Shooter's Hill, which is near Blackheath, was formerly uſed as a butt for archers, and was in great repute among the neighbouring people, till King Henry the VIIIth's time; from whence ſome ſay it took its name. But others tell us, though this appears leſs probable, that it received its name from the frequent robberies that were committed here. It was common, it is ſaid, for thieves to lie lurking in the woods about here, in order to ſhoot paſſengers, and then rifle them. And in the ſixth year of King Richard II. an order was made for enlarging the high-road here, according to the ſtatute of King Edward the Iſt. And King Henry IV. granted leave to Thomas Chapman, to cut down and ſell the wood here, that it might not be an harbour for thieves; and to lay out the money raiſed thereby, for the improvement of the highways. And in July, 1739, a very good deſign was begun to be put in execution on Shooter's Hill, a number of hands being employed in cutting a new road, wide enough for three carriages to paſs a-breaſt, on the eaſtern deſcent of the hill, which was formerly ſo narrow, that it was impoſſible for a paſſenger, if way-laid, to eſcape falling into a ruffian's hands, which was the cauſe of many robberies here.

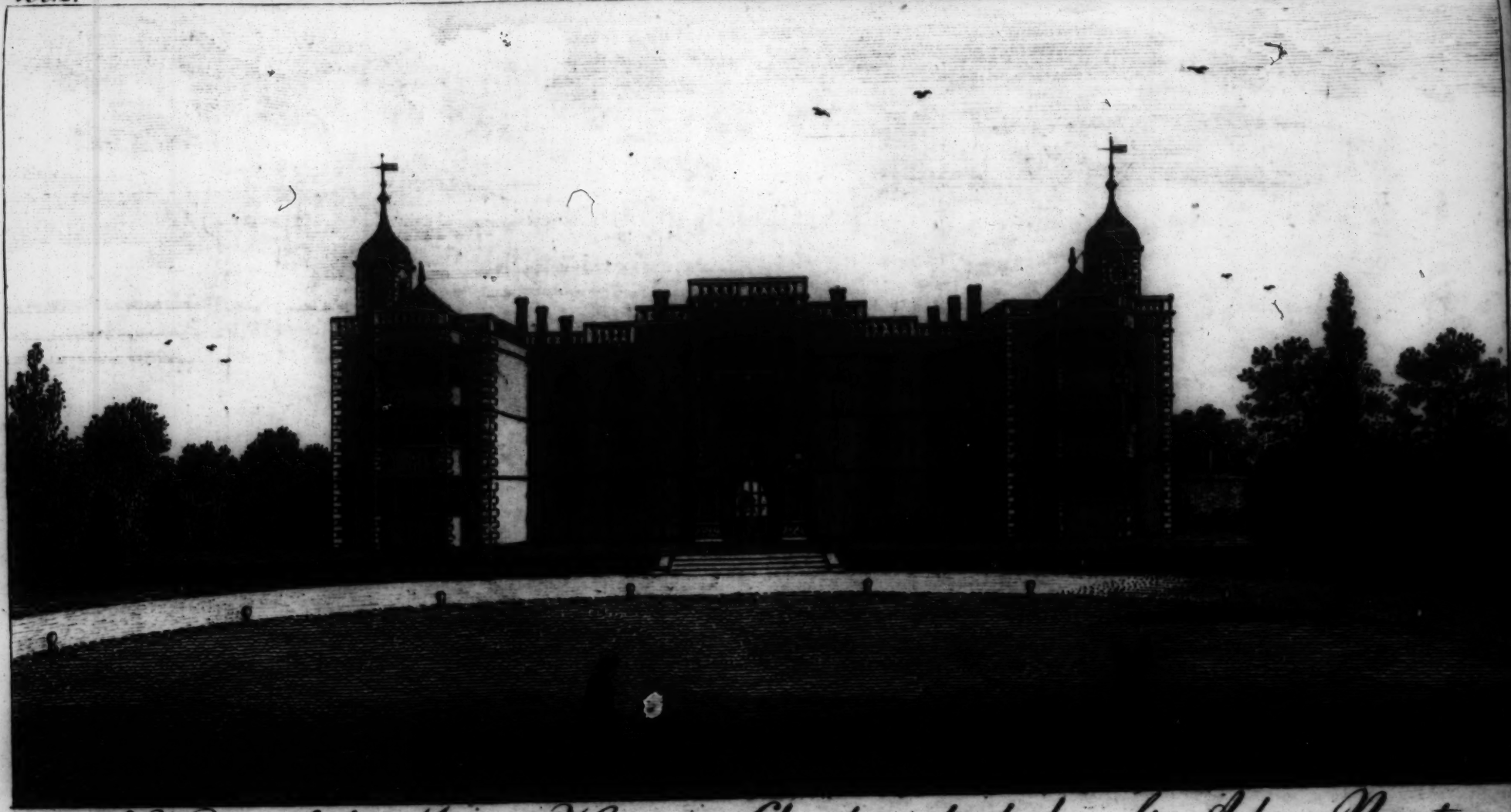
King Henry VIII. and his Queen Katharine, once came in very great ſplendor, on a May-day, from Greenwich to Shooter's Hill; and here they were received by 200 archers clad all in green, with one perſonating Robin Hood as their captain, who firſt ſhewed the King the ſkill of his archers in ſhooting, and then leading the ladies into the wood, gave them a fine entertainment of veniſon and wine, in green arbours, and booths adorned with fine pageants, and all the efforts of romantic gallantry.

Shooter's Hill affords a moſt noble and extenſive proſpect, not only into almoſt all parts of this county, but into Suſſex, Surrey, and Eſſex; and alſo of the cities of London and Weſtminſter, and both up and down the river Thames, where the continual paſſage of numerous ſhips, veſſels, and boats of all kinds, yields a moſt pleaſing and delightful appearance. A deſign was ſome time ſince formed of building a town here, but it ſeems now to be laid aſide.

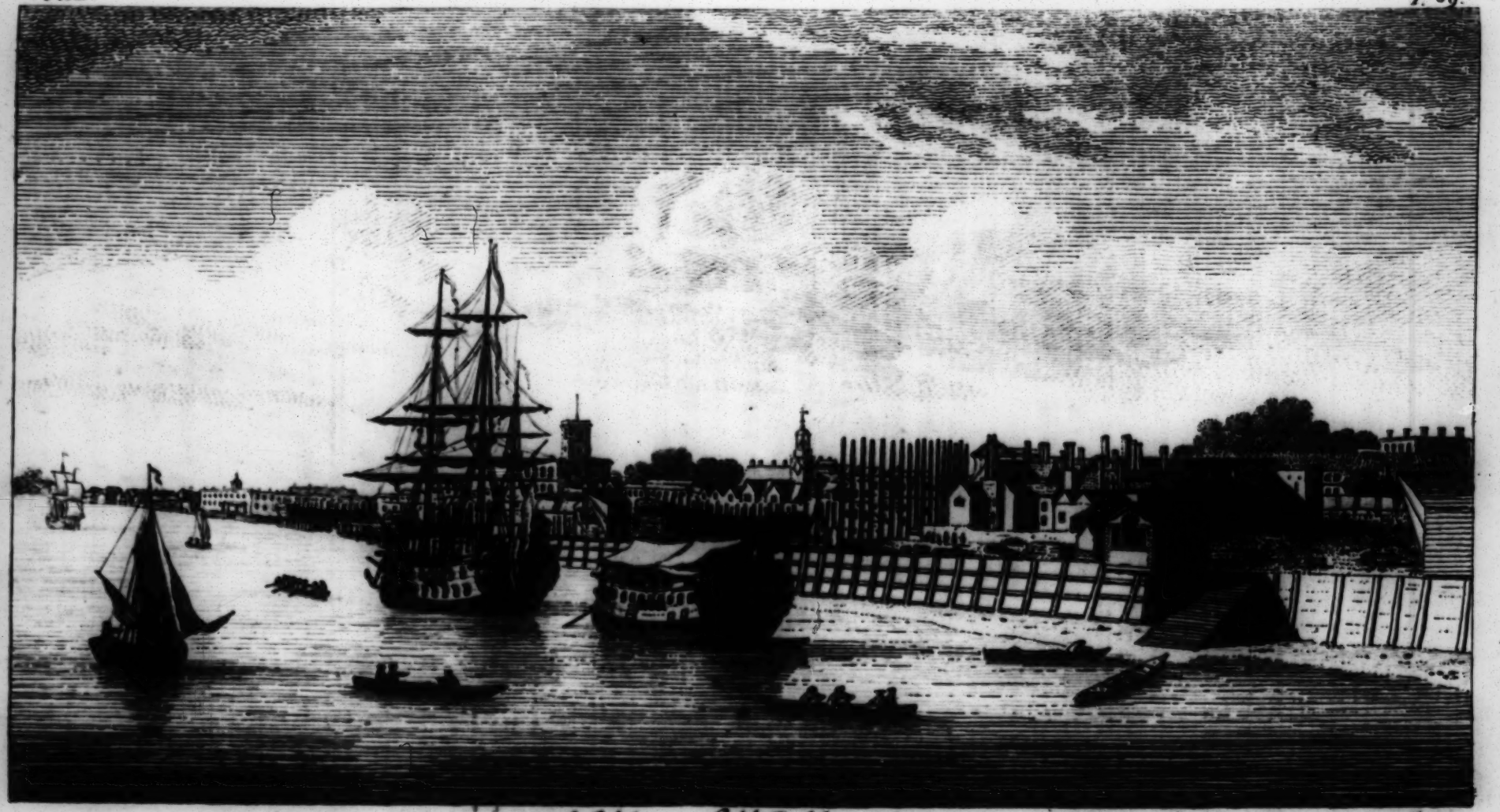
CHARLTON.

This is a pleaſant and well-built village, on the north ſide of Blackheath. It is particularly famous for a diſorderly fair held in its neighbourhood on the 18th of October, St. Luke's Day; when the mob, who wear horns on their heads, uſed to take all kind of liberties, and the lewd and vulgar women who attended there gave a looſe to all manner of indecency; but theſe irregularities have of late years been much reſtrained. This is called *Horn Fair*, and there are ſold at it rams horns, horn toys, and wares of all ſorts. Of this whimſical fair, a vulgar tradition gives the following origin. It is ſaid that King John, who had a palace at Eltham, in this neighbourhood, being out a hunting near Charlton, which was then a mean hamlet, was ſeparated from his attendants; when entering a cottage, he found the miſtreſs of it alone, who being handſome, the King became enamoured of her, and as ſhe was not the moſt modeſt of her ſex, he found means to debauch her. But, in the mean time, her huſband came in, and caught them in the fact; and threatening to kill them both, the King was forced to diſcover himſelf, and to purchaſe his ſafety with gold. Beſides which, he gave the huſband all the land, from thence as far as the place now called Cuckold's Point, and alſo beſtowed on him the whole hamlet; eſtabliſhing a fair, as a condition of his holding his new demeſne, in which horns were both to be ſold and worn. A ſermon is preached on the fair day in the church: which is one of the handſomeſt in the county. It was beautified and repaired by Sir Adam Newton, Bart. who was tutor to King James the Firſt's ſon, Prince Henry: this manor being granted by this monarch to that gentleman. At the entrance of the village ſtands the antient Manor-Houſe built by Sir Adam Newton. The two laſt Earls of Egmont inhabited this manſion ſome years ago; but it is now in the poſſeſſion of Mr. Jones, who married the heireſs of it. It is a ſtately Gothic ſtructure, with four turrets on the top; the court before the houſe is

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A View of the Manor House at Charlton, built by Sir Adam Newton.



A View of Woollwich.

ſpacious; and there are two large Gothic piers to the gates; and on the outſide of the wall is a long row of ſome of the oldeſt cypreſs trees in England. Behind the houſe are large gardens, and beyond theſe a ſmall park, which joins to Woolwich common.

WOOLWICH.

This is a market-town in Kent, about nine miles from London, and three from Greenwich, ſituated on the banks of the river Thames, and wholly taken up by, and in a manner raiſed from, the yards and docks erected there for the naval ſervice. In the reign of King Edward I. Woolwich was in the poſſeſſion of Gilbert de Mariſco; and he held it, as half a Knight's fee, of Warren de Monchenſie, Baron of Swanſcombe. But Queen Elizabeth, when the buſineſs of the navy increaſed, built here larger ſhips than were uſually employed before; new docks and launches were erected, and places prepared for building and repairing ſhips of the largeſt ſize; becauſe here was a greater depth of water, and a freer channel, than at Deptford. This is reckoned the mother-dock of the royal navy, and is ſaid to have furniſhed as many ſhips of war as any two docks in England.

All the buildings and yards belonging to the dock, are encompaſſed with an high wall, and are very ſpacious and convenient, and ſo prodigiouſly full of all ſorts of ſtores, of timber, plank, maſts, pitch, tar, and other naval proviſions, as can hardly be conceived. Beſides the building-yard, here is a large rope-walk, where the biggeſt cables are made for men of war; and on the Eaſt, or lower part of the town, is the Gun-yard, commonly called, *the Warren*, or *the Gun Park*; where there is a vaſt quantity of cannon of all ſorts, for the ſhips of war, every ſhip's guns a-part, heavy cannon for batteries, and mortars of all ſorts and ſizes; inſomuch that here have been laid up at one time, between ſeven and eight thouſand pieces of ordinance, beſides mortars and ſhells, almoſt beyond number. Here is alſo the houſe where the firemen and engineers prepare their fire-works, and charge bombs, carcaſſes, and grenadoes, for the public ſervice.

The town has been of late years much enlarged and beautified, ſeveral fine docks, rope yards, and capacious magazines added; and the royal foundery for cannon repaired and improved. The regiment of the royal train of artillery commonly lies here; and is an academy for inſtructing them in the art of gunnery. The Thames is here near a mile over

at

at high water, and the water ſalt upon the flood; and as the channel lies ſtrait Eaſt and Weſt for about three miles, the tide runs very ſtrong, and the river is entirely free from ſhoals and ſands, and has ſeven or eight fathom water; ſo that the largeſt ſhips may ride here with ſafety, even at low water. The pariſh-church of Woolwich is one of the fifty new churches, and is a very handſome edifice. A weekly market is kept in this town on Fridays.—There is a fortification near Woolwich, on the river Ravenſbourn, the area of which is encloſed with treble ramparts and ditches, very high and deep, near two miles in compaſs; which is ſuppoſed to be a work of the Romans.

Between Woolwich and Dartford is a village named *Erith*, ſituated on the banks of the Thames. And on the brow of a hill near this place, is a very agreeable ſeat, belonging to Sir Sampſon Gideon, Bart. It is called BELVEDERE HOUSE, and commands a vaſt extent of a fine country many miles beyond the Thames, which is about a mile and an half diſtant. This river and its navigation add greatly to the beauty of this ſcene, which exhibits to the eye of the ſpectator a moſt pleaſing and delightful landſcape. The innumerable ſhips employed in the immenſe trade of London, are beheld continually ſailing up and down the river. On the other ſide are proſpects not leſs beautiful, though of another kind. The proprietor of this ſeat has very judiciouſly laid out his grounds, and made many beautiful viſtas. The houſe is but ſmall, though an addition has been made of a very noble room; this and two others are finely furniſhed with a valuable collection of pictures by the greateſt maſters; among which are the following: a portrait of Sir John Gage, by Hans Holbein; St. Catherine, by Leonardo da Vinci; Rembrandt painting an old woman, by himſelf; Snyders with his wife and child, by Rubens; Boors at cards, by Teniers; the Marriage in Cana of Galilee, by Paul Veroneſe; the genealogy of Chriſt, by Albert Durer; Herod conſulting the wiſe men, by Rembrandt; and Mars and Venus, by Paul Veroneſe.

DARTFORD.

This is an handſome large town, ſixteen miles from London. But it is more properly called *Darentford*, from its being ſituated on the river Darent, which runs through it, and at a ſmall diſtance falls into the Thames. On this river the firſt paper-mill in England was erected by Sir John Spilman, who obtained



Belvedere House, the Seat of Sir Sampson Gideon Bar.t

tained a patent, and 200l. a year from K. Charles I. to enable him to carry on that manufacture: and on this river was alſo the firſt mill for ſlitting iron bars for making wire. The town is full of inns and other public houſes, on account of its being a great thoroughfare to Canterbury and Dover. Here is a harbour for barges, and the town is finely watered by two or three good ſprings. King Edward III. had a general tournament performed here by his Nobles, and alſo here founded a convent, whoſe Abbeſs and Nuns were, for the moſt part, of the nobleſt families in this kindom; and this convent King Henry VIII. turned into a palace. King Henry VI. founded an alms-houſe here for five poor decripid men. There is a market here on Saturdays, which is generally well ſtored with corn, and other proviſions; and much frequented by corn-chandlers and meal-men. Here is alſo an annual fair on the 2d of Auguſt for horſes and bullocks. There is a large gun-powder mill here; and it is very remarkable, that though it has been blown up four times, between the years 1730 and 1738, yet no one ever received any perſonal damage by theſe misfortunes. This town gives the title of Viſcount to the Earl of Jerſey.

Crayford is a ſmall town near Dartford, which obtained its name from its having anciently a ford over the river Cray, or Crouch, a little above its influx into the Thames. This place is famous for a battle fought near it, between the Britons and Saxons, commanded by Hengiſt, A. D. 457, in which the Britons were overthrown. In the adjacent heath and fields, are ſeveral caves, ſuppoſed to have been formed by the Saxons as places of ſecurity and ſhelter for their wives, children, and effects, during their wars with the Britons.

There are alſo ſeveral villages in Kent, which take their names from the ſmall river Cray, on the banks of which they are ſituated. This ſtream riſes a little to the ſouth-weſt of St. Mary Cray, runs by that town, and paſſing by Paul's Cray, Foot's Cray, and North Cray, runs into the Darent, near its conflux with the Thames at Dartford creek, oppoſite to Purfleet. The principal of theſe places is St. Mary Cray, about which are many woods of Birch, from which the broom-makers in Kent-ſtreet, Southwark, are ſupplied.

At *Foot's Cray*, which is about twelve miles from London, Mr. Harene has a very fine ſeat, which was built by the late Bouchier Cleeve, Eſq; after a deſign of Palladio, of the Ionic order,

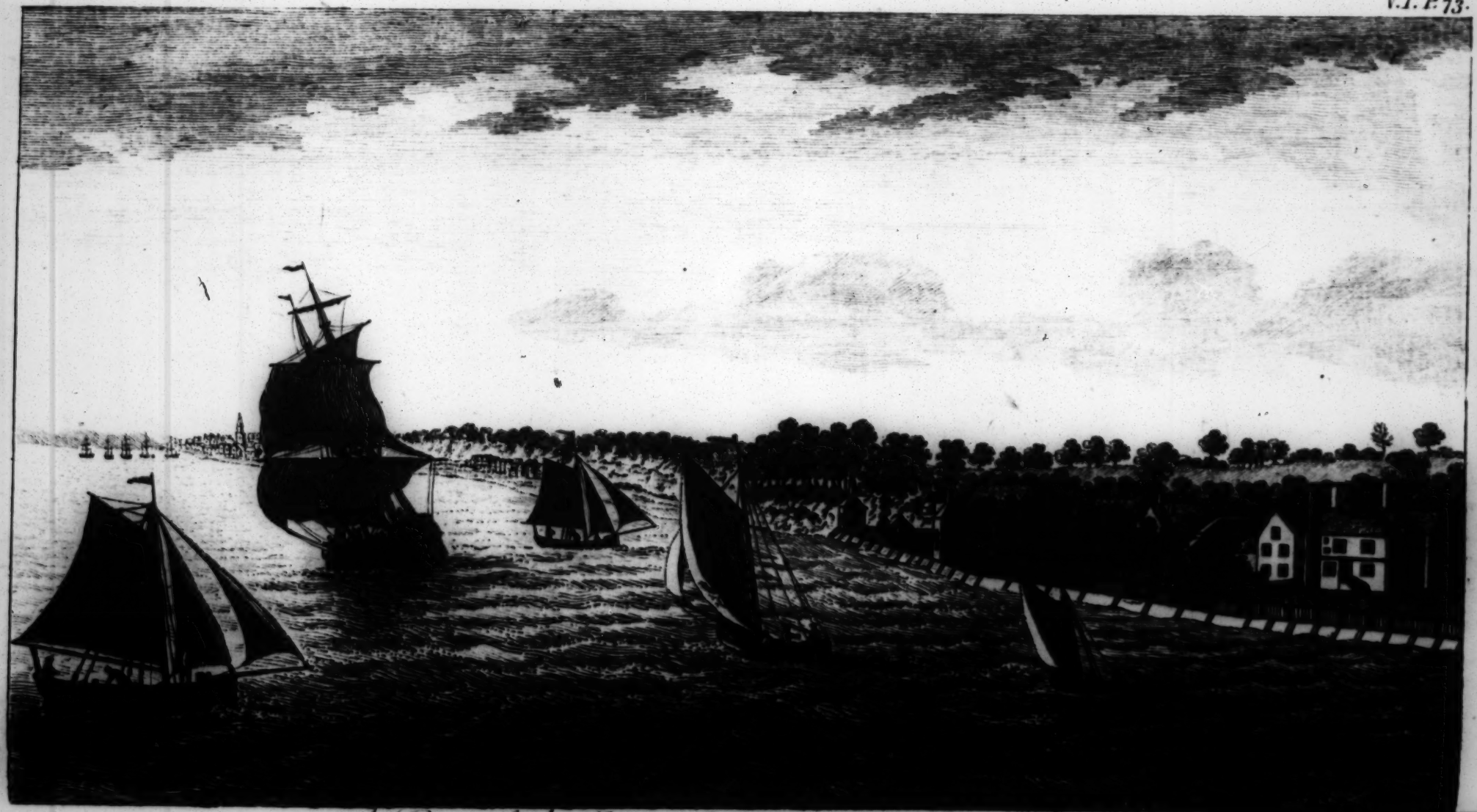
order, and is very elegant. The original deſign had four porticos, three of which are filled up in order to gain more room. The hall is octagonal, and has a gallery round which conveys you to the bed-chambers. It is enlightened from the top, and is very beautiful. The edifice is built of ſtone, but the offices, which are on each ſide at ſome diſtance, are brick. The houſe ſtands on a riſing ground, with a gradual deſcent from it till you come to the water, which from the houſe appears to be a ſmall river gliding along through the whole length of the ground: and in that part of the water which is oppoſite to the houſe, there is a fine caſcade conſtantly flowing out of it. But this water, which appears to be ſuch a pretty natural ſtream, and which has ſo pleaſing an effect, is in reality artificial, and is brought from the river Cray, which runs juſt by. When the canal or cut, which is made through the ground to receive the water from the river, is full, it forms the caſcade before the houſe, by flowing over in that place, and the ſurplus water being inſtantly buried in the ground, is again conveyed under this cut or canal to the main ſtream. The chief beauty of the ground about the houſe conſiſts in its ſimplicity, it being entirely without ornament, and the whole of it a kind of lawn, having little beſides the plain turf. The ſituation is pleaſant, and the proſpect from the houſe very good. The diſpoſition of the rooms within the houſe appears to be very convenient, and the ſeveral apartments are elegantly finiſhed. The gallery, which extends the whole length of the North front of the houſe, is a very grand room, and is filled with pictures by the moſt eminent maſters.

Near the road from Dartford (of which we have lately ſpoken) to Graveſend, is a large common called *Dartford Brink*, where Edward III. held a ſolemn tournament in the year 1331. The conteſt between the families of York and Lancaſter began here, when Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, &c. A. D. 1452, brought together on this ſpot an army of ten thouſand men. At preſent it is the theatre of more peaceful ſcenes, as appears by the booths erected on a part of it, in which the ſpectators behold the great cricket-matches that are played on this agreeable ſpot.

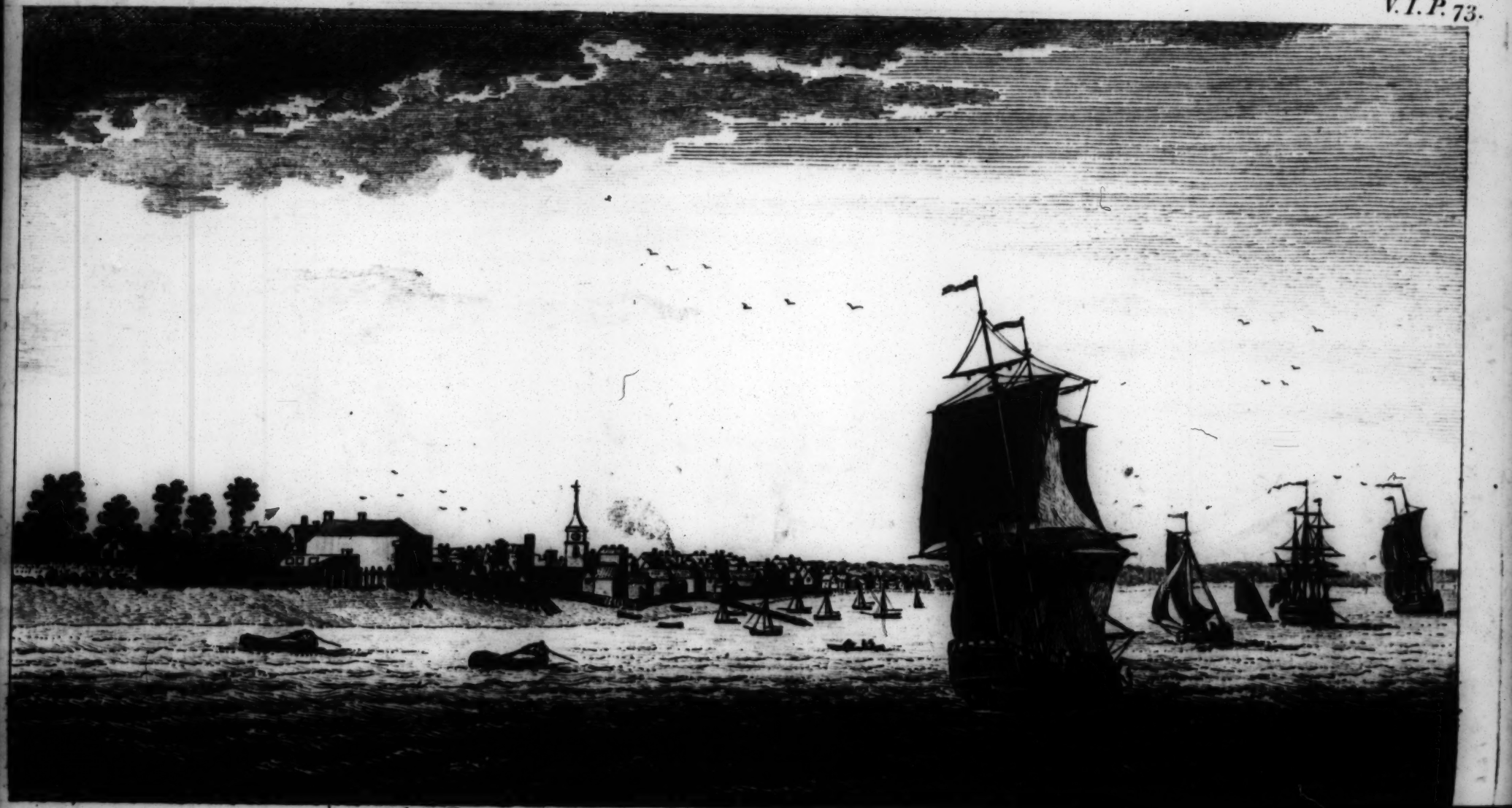
About half a mile to the left of the road, between Dartford and Graveſend, is the venerable church of *Stone*, which has in it ſeveral ancient monuments. The manſion called Stone-caſtle is to the right of the road: the ancient ſtructure is gone to ruins, and a modern building erected in its place, which is now



A View of Foots-Cray Place in the County of Kent.



A View of the River



A View of [illegible]

now the habitation of John Talbot, Eſq. Greenhithe is a romantic ſituation on the bank of the Thames; on the left, are a number of large pits, from which are ſhipped innumerable tons of chalk and lime. Beyond the eighteenth mile ſtone, on the left hand, is the ſeat of the late John Calcraft, Eſq. one of the repreſentatives of the city of Rocheſter. The houſe is very convenient, and the gardens beautifully romantic: from a ſpacious and elegant room at the weſt end of the houſe, as well as from various parts of the gardens, the eye is entertained with views of the river, and the whole Eſſex ſhore, that are perfectly enchanting: and upon the whole it is one of the moſt delightful ſpots on the bank of the Thames.

The country about Greenhithe and Swanſcomb is famous for being the rendezvous of the Daniſh free-booters, who drew their fleet into the inlet or rivulet that formerly was pretty deep between the hills, on which Northfleet and Swanſcomb are ſituated: the latter place derives its name from a captain of thoſe barbarians, called Swein's camp. There remain ſtill ſeveral ſmall hills caſt up by theſe free-booters, and called ſconces, being ſtations for a ſmall number of men employed as centinels, when the camp was here.—Swanſcomb is alſo ſaid to be the place, where the Kentiſh men, ſheltered with boughs in their hands like a moving wood, ſurprized William the Conqueror, and, throwing down their boughs, threatened battle, if they had not their ancient cuſtoms and franchiſes; which he thereupon granted them.— There is a fair held here on *Whit-Tueſday*.

The aſcent from this valley to Northfleet is lately made very eaſy, and much improved. Between the road and the Thames is the ſeat of Thomas Chiffinch, Eſq. pleaſantly ſituated.—The village of *Northfleet* is on an eminence near Graveſend, and is very ancient, for it is found recorded in Domeſday book. The church contains ſeveral ancient monuments.

GRAVESEND.

This town, which is twenty-two miles from London, is a flouriſhing and populous place; but the ſtreets are narrow, and the pavement bad. Graveſend has changed its ſituation ſince the great increaſe of trade in this nation, and approached nearer the river, as the chief ſupport of its inhabitants. It was incorporated, together with Milton, which is at a ſmall diſtance from hence, in the 10th year of Queen Elizabeth's

reign, by the name of the port-reeve, (which has been changed to that of Mayor) jurats, and inhabitants of the towns of Graveſend and Milton. Graveſend is ſituated on the river Thames, oppoſite to Tilbury Fort, and is a vaſt thoroughfare between London and Dover. Here is ſeated one of the block-houſes for ſecuring the paſſage of the Thames up to London; and this being the uſual landing place for all ſtrangers and ſeamen, occaſions a great reſort of all degrees of people; for whoſe accommodation there are held here two large weekly markets, on Wedneſdays and Saturdays, well ſtored with all ſorts of proviſions. Here all outward bound ſhips muſt ſtop and come to an anchor, when a ſearcher of the cuſtoms comes on board, and looks after the ſeveral cockets, which contain the entries of the ſeveral parts of the cargo, if of divers ſorts; and this is called *Clearing*.

In the reign of King Richard II. this town was burnt and plundered by the French; who, to make repriſals upon the Engliſh, for the ravage and plunder made in France by the Engliſh army, under the Lord Nevil, came up the Thames with their ſhips, and burnt and plundered this and ſeveral other towns, and carried away many of the inhabitants. But to enable the town of Graveſend to recover this loſs, the Abbot of St. Mary le Grace, on Tower-hill, whom King Richard had granted a manor belonging to Graveſend, obtained that the inhabitants of Graveſend and Milton ſhould have the ſole privilege of carrying paſſengers by water from hence to London, at 2d. a head, or 4s. the whole fare; but the fare is now raiſed to 9d. a head in the tilt boat, and 1s. in the wherry. The former muſt not take in above forty paſſengers, and the latter no more than ten. The watermens company are by act of Parliament obliged to provide officers at Billingſgate and at Graveſend, who at every time of high water, by night and day, are at their reſpective places to ring publickly a bell ſet up for that purpoſe, for fifteen minutes, to give notice to the tilt-boats and wherries to put off; and coaches ply at Graveſend at the landing of people from London, to carry them to Rocheſter.

Graveſend being burnt down in the year 1727, the Parliament in 1731, granted 5000l. for rebuilding its church, which ſtood near the high road, but is now nearer the river, and is a new and elegant building. Here is a very handſome charitable foundation, Mr. Henry Pinnock having in 1624, given twenty-one dwelling houſes, and a houſe for a maſter-weaver to employ the poor: and a good eſtate is

also

alſo ſettled for repairs.——In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the Lord-mayor, aldermen, and companies of the city of London, were ordered by her Majeſty to receive all eminent ſtrangers and foreign ambaſſadors at Graveſend, in their formalities, and ſo to attend them up to London in their barges, if they came by water. If they came by land, they met them at Shooter's Hill, or on Blackheath, on horſe-back.

Within a few years paſt, great improvements have been made in the lands near this town, by turning them into kitchen gardens, with the produce of which Graveſend not only ſupplies the neighbouring places for ſeveral miles round, but alſo ſends great quantities to the London markets. There are two annual fairs held here, one on the 23d of April, and the other on the 24th of October, for horſes, cloathes, toys, and other goods.

Tilbury Fort, which is in the county of Eſſex, oppoſite to Graveſend, is a regular fortification, planned by Sir Martin Beckman, chief engineer to Charles II. with baſtions, the largeſt of any in England. It has a double moat; the innermoſt of which is 180 feet broad, with a good counterſcarp, a covered way, ravelins and tenailles, and a platform, on which 106 cannon are placed, from 24 to 46 pounders each, beſides ſmaller ones planted between them, and the baſtions and curtains, alſo planted with guns; and here is a high tower, called the Block Houſe, which is ſaid to have been built in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. On the land ſide are two redoubts of brick; and there it is able to lay the whole level under water. The four proconſular ways made in Britain by the Romans croſſed each other here. Great part of the land in this level, which is formed of thoſe unhealthy marſhes, called the *Three Hundreds*, is held by the farmers, cowkeepers, and grazing butchers of London, who generally ſtock them with Lincolnſhire and Leiceſterſhire weathers, which they buy in Smithfield, in September and October, and feed them here till Chriſtmas or Candlemas; and this is what the butchers call right Marſh mutton.

BROMLEY.

This is a ſmall town, ſituated on the river Ravenſbourn, in Kent, at the diſtance of ten miles from London. The Biſhop of Rocheſter has a palace here. King Edgar is ſaid to have given this manor to the Biſhops of that ſee in the

year 955. Here is an Hoſpital erected by Dr. Warner, Biſhop of Rocheſter, in the reign of King Charles II. for twenty poor Clergymen's widows, with an allowance of 20l. a year each, and 50l. a year to the chaplain. There is a mineral ſpring here, the water of which has been found, by a chemical analyſis, to contain the ſame qualities as the Tunbridge water, in a greater degree. A market is kept here every Thurſday, and two annual fairs, one on the 3d of February, and the other on the 5th of Auguſt, for horſes, bullocks, ſheep, and hogs.

Cheſilhurſt, or *Chiſlehurſt*, which is about three miles from Bromley, is famous for being the retirement of our celebrated Camden, who reſided here for ſeveral years, and here compoſed the greateſt part of the Annals of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. He died here in 1623, but his body was carried to London, and buried in Weſtminſter-abbey. At this place alſo that great ſtateſman, Sir Francis Walſingham, was born.

E L T H A M.

This is a pleaſant town, ſeven miles from London, in the midway between Bromley and the Thames. It is full of good houſes, and ſome families of rich citizens inhabit here. There was formerly a royal palace here, which ſome ſay was built by Anthony Beck, Biſhop of Durham, who beſtowed it upon Queen Eleanor, the wife of Edward I. but others ſay there was formerly a royal palace here before that time. However, King Edward II. conſtantly reſided in this palace, and his ſon being born here, was on that account called John Eltham. The palace here was much enlarged by the ſucceeding Kings, who when the court was kept at Greenwich, often retired hither. There are, however, no traces of the palace now remaining. Here are two charity ſchools. The ſeat of Sir John Shaw is at a ſmall diſtance from Eltham.

L E W I S H A M.

This is a pleaſant village upon the Tunbridge road, near three miles from Eltham, and ſouth weſt of Blackheath; and a little beyond the five mile ſtone upon that road, on the eaſt of the village, lie the pleaſant gardens of Mr. Blackwel, banker: they take in the valley, and the hill above it, to which the aſcent is through a beautiful ſhrubbery; and from the

the ſummit of the hill you command a very rich proſpect on all ſides, with the public Tunbridge road at a quarter of a mile diſtance in the bottom. Upon the declivity of Blackheath, next Lewiſham, is the free ſchool, for the benefit of ſeveral pariſhes in the hundred of Blackheath. It is ſituated upon a very healthy ſpot. It is now, and hath long ſince been a conſiderable boarding ſchool, preſerving at the ſame time the original inſtitution. It was founded in the laſt century by Abraham Colſe, vicar of Lewiſham, who bequeathed other charities to the pariſh of Lewiſham.

D U L W I C H.

This is a very pleaſant village in Surry, on the borders of Kent, five miles from London, in which and about the neighbourhood are many very agreeable country houſes. Here are ſome very fine proſpects, eſpecially near the houſe of entertainment called the Green Man. In particular, the fine walk oppoſite to this houſe, where from under a tree diſtinguiſhed by the name of *the Oak of Honour*, you have a view as in a fine piece of painting, of the houſes as well as churches, and other public edifices, from Putney Down to Chelſea, with all the adjacent villages, together with Weſtminſter, London, Deptford, and Greenwich, and over the metropolis, as far as Highgate and Hampſtead.

Dulwich is noted for the medicinal waters in its neighbourhood, called *Sydenham Wells*; but more particularly for its college. This was founded and endowed in 1619, by Mr. William Alleyn, who named it, *The college of God's gift*. This gentleman was a comedian, and a principal actor in many of Shakeſpeare's plays; and the cauſe which induced him to found this college is ſaid to have been the following. He was once perſonating the devil, in ſome theatrical exhibition; and on this occaſion, we are told, he was ſo much terrified, at the opinion of his ſeeing a real devil upon the ſtage, that he from that moment quitted the theatre, devoted the remainder of his life to religious exerciſes, and formed the reſolution of founding this college. But the whole of this tale appears to be without foundation; and there is great reaſon to believe, that Mr. Alleyn was induced to the erection of this charitable foundation by much better and more rational motives. However, this college was founded for a maſter and warden, who were always to be

of

of the name of Alleyn, or Allen; with four fellows, three of whom were to be divines, and the fourth an organiſt; and for ſix poor men, as many poor women, and twelve poor boys, to be educated in the college by one of the fellows as ſchool-maſter, and by another as uſher. In this original endowment, he excluded all future benefactions to it, and conſtituted for viſitors the church-wardens of St. Giles's, Cripplegate, St. Saviour's, Southwark, and St. Botolph, Biſhopſgate; who, upon any diſagreement among them, were to appeal to the archbiſhop of Canterbury, before whom all the members were to be ſworn at their admiſſion. To this college belongs a chapel, in which the founder himſelf, who was ſeveral years maſter, lies buried. The maſter of this college is lord of the manor, for a conſiderabe extent of ground, and enjoys all the affluence and eaſe of the Prior of a monaſtery. Both he and the Warden, muſt be unmarried, and are for ever debarred the privilege of entering that ſtate, on pain of being excluded the college; but as the Warden always ſucceeds upon the death of the Maſter, great intereſt is conſtantly made, by the unmarried men of the name of Allen, to obtain the poſt of Warden.

The original edifice is in the old taſte; but part of it has been lately pulled down, and rebuilt with greater elegance, out of what has been ſaved from the produce of the eſtate. The Maſter's rooms are richly adorned with very noble old furniture, which he is obliged to purchaſe on his entering into that ſtation; and for his uſe there is a library, to which every Maſter generally adds a number of books. The college is alſo accommodated with a very pleaſant garden, adorned with walks, and a great profuſion of fruit trees and flowers.

It appears that Mr. Alleyn, the founder of this college, was one of the beſt actors of the age in which he lived; and is celebrated by Ben Jonſon as ſuperior to the ancient Roſcius. He was maſter of the Fortune play-houſe near Whitecroſs-ſtreet, in London, which was erected by himſelf. He is ſaid to have been diſtinguiſhed by his moral qualities as a man, as well as by his abilities in his profeſſion. Beſides being a player himſelf, and maſter of a play-houſe, he was alſo keeper of the King's wild beaſts, or maſter of the royal bear garden. But after the erection of this college, it is obſerved by an old writer, that "this famous man was ſo e-"qually mingled with humility and charity, that he became

"his

" his own penſioner; humbly ſubmitting himſelf to that pro-
" portion of diet and cloathes, which he had beſtowed on
" others."

There is a fair held at Dulwich on the 25th and 26th of May for toys.—Not far from hence is *Norwood*, which uſed to be noted for the reſidence of certain gypſies here, to whom many credulous perſons reſorted for the purpoſe of having their fortunes told.

Strettham is a village in this neighbourhood, at the diſtance of ſix miles ſouth weſt of London, and three miles to the north of Croydon, which uſed to be much frequented for its medicinal waters. It has a charity-ſchool, and a ſeat belonging to the Duke of Bedford, who is Lord of the manor.

CROYDON.

This is a large and populous town in Surry, ſituated on the edge of Banſted Downs, ten miles aud a half from London. 'Tis ſaid there was once a royal palace in this place, which was given with the manor to the Archbiſhops of Canterbury, who converted it into a palace for themſelves; but is now much decayed. Archbiſhop Whitgift founded an hoſpital here, which he endowed with farms for the ſupport of a warden, and twenty-eight men and women, decayed houſe keepers of Croyden and Lambeth, with a ſchool for ten boys, and as many girls, with 20l. a year, and a houſe for the maſter, who muſt be a clergyman. The church, which is eſteemed the fineſt and largeſt in the county, has ſeveral ſtately monuments, particularly one for Archbiſhop Grindall, another for Archbiſhop Sheldon, and another for Francis Tyrell, a grocer in London, who generouſly gave 200l. to build the market houſe. Here is a great corn market on Saturdays, chiefly for oats and oatmeal for the ſervice of London; and the adjacent hills being well covered with wood, great quantities of charcoal are made and ſent to this city.—Croydon has two fairs, held on the 5th of July, and the 2d of October, for horſes, bullocks, ſheep, and toys.

BEDDINGTON, which is at a little diſtance from Croydon, is the ſeat and manor of the ancient family of the Carews. It is a noble edifice; but the wings are too deep for the body of the houſe; for they ſhould either have been placed at a greater

greater diſtance, or not have been ſo long. The court before them is fine, as is the canal in the park, which lies before this court, and has a river running through it. All the flat part of the park is taken up with very fine gardens, which extend in viſtas two or three miles. It is ſaid that the orange-trees, which formerly grew here in the open air, have been killed by too great care to preſerve them. They had originally only moving houſes, to ſhelter them in winter, from the ſeverity of the weather; but ſome years ago, the owner was at the expence of erecting a fine green-houſe, with ſaſhes in front, ſince which time the trees began to decay, though they ſtood here in the open ground above an hundred years, and annually produced great quantities of fruit. The pleaſure houſe, which was built by Sir Francis Carew, has the famous Spaniſh Armada painted on the top of it, and under it is a cold bath. The church is a beautiful ſmall Gothic pile, built of ſtone, in the north and ſouth iſles of which are ſeveral ſtalls after the manner of cathedrals: and here is alſo two charity ſchools, one for boys, and the other for girls.

Carſhalton, which is on the ſouth-weſt ſide of Croydon, near Banſted-downs, lies among innumerable ſprings which all together form a river in the very ſtreet of the town, and joining other ſprings that flow from Croydon and Beddington, form one ſtream called the Wandell. Though this village is ſituated among ſprings, it is built upon firm chalk, and one of the moſt beautiful ſpots on that ſide of London, on which account it has many fine houſes belonging to the citizens of London, ſome of them built with ſuch grandeur and expence, that they might be rather taken for ſeats of the nobility, than the country houſes of citizens and merchants. Mr. Scawen intended to build a magnificent houſe here in a fine park which is walled round, and vaſt quantities of ſtone and other materials were collected by him for this purpoſe; but the deſign was never carried into execution. Here alſo Dr. Ratcliff built a very fine houſe, which afterwards belonged to Sir John Fellows, who added gardens and curious water works. It is at length paſſed into the poſſeſſion of the Lord Hardwicke, who ſold it to the late William Mitchell, Eſq. In levelling the road near this place, to make an avenue to a gentleman's ſeat, a large quantity of human bones was found.

Woodcote,

Woodcote, or *Woodcote-warren*, which is three miles ſouth-weſt of Croydon, is thought to have been anciently a city. Dr. Gale, who narrowly examined it, tells us, that there are found much rubbiſh of buildings, the foundations of houſes, plain marks of ſtreets and lanes, ſquared ſtones, many wells, at ſmall diſtances from each other, beſides other marks of antiquity. Camden takes this to have been the Noviomagus of Ptolemy; becauſe it agrees exactly with the diſtances from London and other places.

BLECHINGLEY.

This is a ſmall antient parliamentary borough by preſcription, having had that privilege ever ſince parliaments had a being; yet has no market, but has fairs on June 11, and November 2. It is twenty miles from London. The town ſtands on a hill, on the ſide of Holmſdale, with a fine proſpect as far as the South Downs and Suſſex. Here is an alms-houſe and a free-ſchool. It has an handſome church, which had a ſpire, but in 1608 was conſumed by lightning, and all the bells melted.

Godſtone, which is a village two miles north-eaſt of Blechingley, is famous for its quarries of excellent ſtone. A part of this village lies in the road leading to Eaſt-Grinſtead; but the other part, as well as the church, ſtands upon an eminence at a conſiderable diſtance.

Tandridge, which is a village three miles eaſt of Blechingley, was once ſo conſiderable as to give name to the hundred in which it ſtands, and had a priory of black canons, of the order of St. Auguſtine, founded by Odo de Dammartin, in the reign of King Richard I. It was appointed for three prieſts, and for the ſupport and maintenance of the ſick and poor, and the hoſpitable entertainment of travellers.

GATTON.

This place is eighteen miles from London, and was formerly a conſiderable town, but it has at preſent no market, though it ſends two members to parliament. It is a very ancient place, and ſome are of opinion that it was a Roman ſtation, from the coins and other antiquities that have been diſcovered here: and where the manor-houſe ſtands, it is ſaid there was once a caſtle. The river Mole riſes in this pariſh, which is alſo noted for a quarry of white free ſtone, which

is ſoft, and endures the fire admirably well in winter, but neither ſun nor air. 'Tis much uſed by chymiſts, bakers, and glaſs-houſes.

B A N S T E D.

This is a village noted for abundance of walnut trees, but more for its neighbouring Downs, one of the moſt delightful ſpots in England. It is particularly rendered ſo by the agreeable ſeats around it; and by its fine carpet-ground, covered with ſhort herbage, perfumed with thyme and juniper, which makes the mutton of this tract, though ſmall, remarkably ſweet. There is here a fine proſpect of ſeveral counties on both ſides the Thames, including a view of the Royal Palaces of Windſor, Hampton Court, and alſo of London, from the Tower to Weſtminſter, it being a tract of no leſs than thirty miles, extending from Croydon to Farnham, though under different appellations. There is a four mile courſe here, which, in the ſeaſon of horſe-races, is much frequented, as all Banſted Downs are, throughout the whole ſummer, for their wholeſome air.

E P S O M.

This is a well-built and handſome town in Surrey, ſixteen miles from London. It abounds with many genteel houſes, which are principally the retreats of the merchants and citizens of London. It is extremely pleaſant, and lies open to Banſted Downs. Its mineral waters, which come from a ſpring near Aſhted, were diſcovered in 1618, and ſoon became extremely famous; but though they are not impaired in virtue, they are far from being in the ſame repute as formerly; however, the ſalt made of them is valued all over Europe. It has been obſerved, that there are here ſo many fields, meadows, orchards, and gardens, that a ſtranger would be at a loſs to know whether this was a town in a wood, or a wood in a town. A fair is held here on the 5th of Auguſt, for toys.—In Hudſon's-lane here was Epſom-court, that ancient Saxon ſeat, long ſince converted into a farm.

Adjoining to Epſom is *Durdans*, a fine ſeat belonging to the Earl of Guilford.——About two miles from Epſom is a village named *Ewell*, near which a magnificent palace was erected by King Henry the Eighth, that obtained the name of *Nonſuch* from its unparalleled beauty. The learned Hentzer, a German, who wrote his Itinerarium in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, ſpeaking of this palace, ſays, it was built with

with an exceſs of magnificence and elegance, even to oſtentation. "One would imagine, ſays he, that every thing in the power of architecture to perform, was employed in this work; there are every where ſo many ſtatues that ſeem to breathe ſo many miracles of conſummate art, ſo many caſts that rival even the perfection of Roman antiquity, that it may well claim and juſtify its name of Nonſuch. The palace is ſo encompaſſed with parks, with deer, with delightful gardens, groves, and walks ſo embrowned by trees, that it ſeems to be a place pitched upon by Pleaſure herſelf, to dwell in along with Health. In the pleaſure gardens, are many columns and pyramids of marble, and two fountains which ſpout water: one has a pyramid, upon which are perched ſmall birds that ſtream water out of their bills. In the grove of Diana is the other fountain, where Acteon is repreſented turned into a ſtag, as he was ſprinkled by the Goddeſs and her nymphs. There is, beſides, another marble pyramid, filled with concealed pipes, which ſprinkle all that come within their reach." Such is the deſcription which Hentzer gave of this palace and gardens; but the palace was afterwards ſuffered to fall to decay; and King Charles the Second giving it to one of his miſtreſſes, the Ducheſs of Cleveland, ſhe pulled it down and ſold the materials, with which a new houſe was built by the Earl of Berkeley, and which afterwards came into poſſeſſion of the Earl of Guilford, and was named Durdans, of which we have juſt made mention.

Mitcham, which is nine miles from London, is a well-inhabited village, much frequented by the citizens of London. Here is a fair on the 12th of Auguſt, for cattle and toys.—At a little diſtance from hence are two villages of the name of *Towting*, ſituated near each other, and diſtinguiſhed by the epithets Upper and Lower. *Upper Towting* ſtands in the road from Southwark to Epſom, and has an alms-houſe, founded in 1709, by the mother of Sir John Bateman, Lord Mayor of London, for ſix poor alms-women, to be nominated by the heir of the family. This village is adorned with ſeveral fine ſeats belonging to gentlemen and citizens of London. *Lower Towting* is a mile and a half to the ſouth-eaſt of the former.

Martin, a village about a mile ſouth-weſt of Towting, is a place of great antiquity; for here Kenulph, one of the Weſt Saxon Kings, was ſlain in the houſe of his favourite miſtreſs. Here was a magnificent abbey, founded by King

Henry the Firſt, for canons of the order of St. Auguſtine, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The prior of this abbey ſat in the Houſe of Lords, and the abbey itſelf was endowed with great privileges, and very conſiderable revenues.

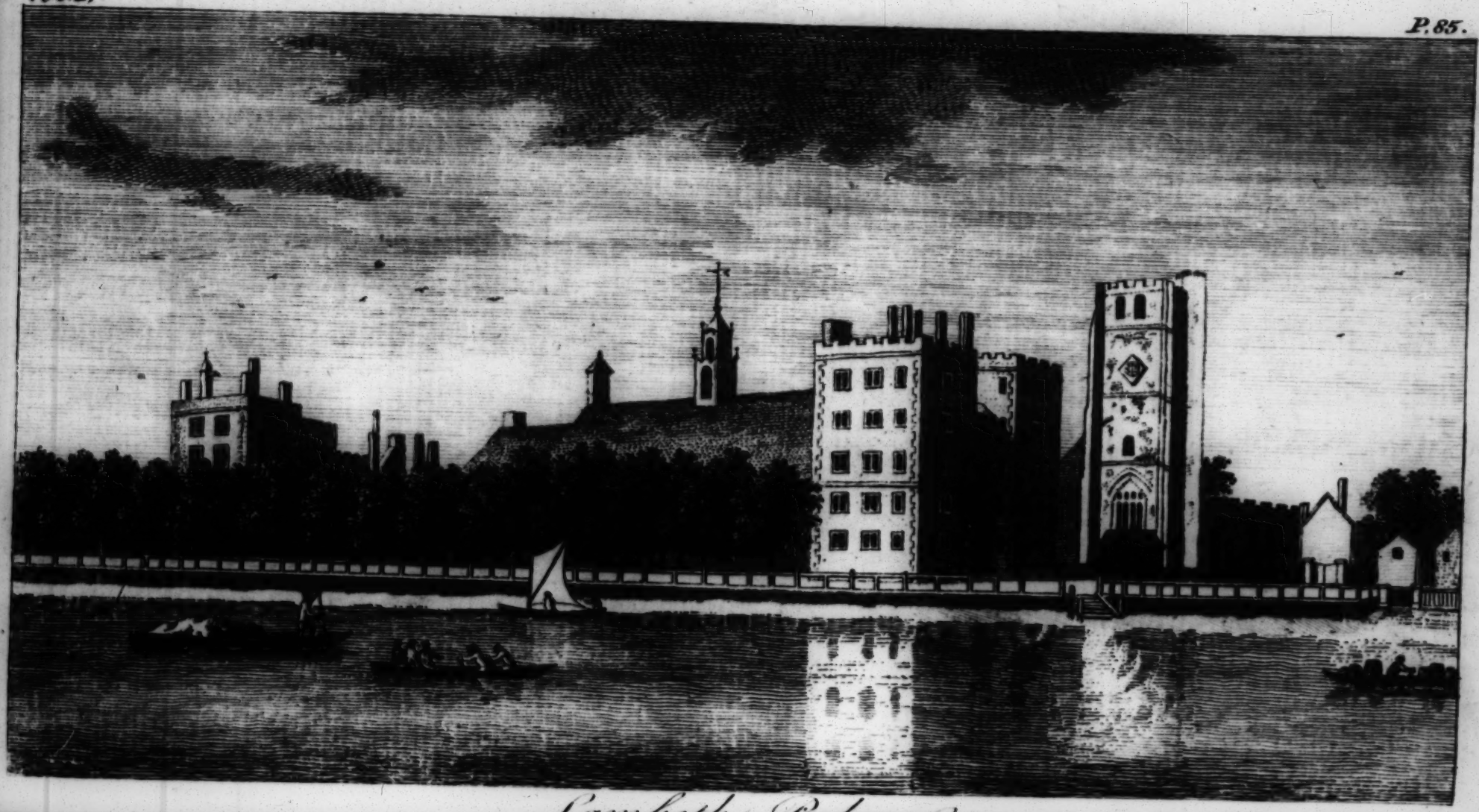
P E C K H A M.

This is a pleaſant village in Surrey, in the pariſh of Camberwell. Here is the ſeat of the late Lord Trevor, built in the reign of King James the Second, by Sir Thomas Bond, who being deeply engaged in the pernicious ſchemes of that arbitrary and imprudent prince, was obliged to leave the kingdom with him, when the houſe was plundered by the populace, and became forfeited to the Crown. The front of the houſe ſtands to the north, with a ſpacious garden before it, from which extends two rows of large elms, of conſiderable length, through which the Tower of London terminates the proſpect. But on each ſide of this avenue you have a view of London; and the maſts of veſſels appearing at high water, over the trees and houſes up to Greenwich, greatly improve the proſpect. The village of Peckham, which lies on the back ſide of the gardens, is ſhut out from the view by plantations. The kitchen garden and the walls were planted with the choiceſt fruit trees from France, and an experienced gardener was ſent for from Paris to have the management of them; ſo that the collection of fruit trees in this garden has been accounted one of the beſt in England. After the death of the late Lord Trevor, this ſeat was purchaſed by a private gentleman.——There are alſo at Peckham ſeveral other villas, and neat houſes of retirement, inhabited by the tradeſmen of London, and thoſe who have retired from buſineſs. It principally conſiſts of one long ſtreet, and has a Diſſenting meeting-houſe. Here is a fair on the 21ſt of Auguſt for toys.—*Peckham Rye* is a village on the ſouth ſide of Peckham.

Camberwell is a pleaſant village, ſituated about a mile to the northward of Peckham, and two miles from Southwark, in the road to Croydon. It has ſeveral pretty houſes belonging chiefly to tradeſmen of London, and a fair on the 18th of Auguſt for toys.

Clapham is a very agreeable village, three miles from London, and contains many pleaſant houſes. There is a ſmall fair held here on the 27th of Auguſt.—On an hill near the road ſide ſtands the church, and there is an handſome ſchool-houſe built by the pariſh, for teaching the children of the poor of the village.

Ken-



Lambeth Palace

Kennington is a village near Lambeth, and is one of the eight precincts of that parish. Near it is Kennington Common, a ſmall ſpot of ground on the ſide of the road to Camberwell, and about a mile and an half from London. Upon this ſpot is the gallows for the county of Surrey.

L A M B E T H.

This is a village in Surrey, ſituated on the Thames, between Southwark and Batterſea. It is particularly famous for its containing, for ſeveral ages, the palace of the Archbiſhop of Canterbury. This ſtructure was originally formed by Baldwin, Archbiſhop of that ſee, in the year 1188; who firſt intended to have raiſed a ſuperb ſtructure at Hackington, near this place; but the Monks, with whom he was at variance, obtained the Pope's mandate againſt it; when, taking down what he had erected, he removed the beſt of the materials to Lambeth, with which he built the palace, a college, and church, having before purchaſed the ground of the Biſhop and Convent of Rocheſter, by a fair exchange.

In the year 1250, Boniface, Archbiſhop of Canterbury, having, by his arrogance, rendered himſelf hateful to the citizens of London, retired, for the ſecurity of his perſon, to this palace; and finding it in a ruinous condition, within the ſpace of three years rebuilt the whole north ſide, the archiepiſcopal apartments, the library and cloyſters, the guard chamber, the chapel, and Lollards tower.

From that time this palace became the reſidence of the greateſt perſons of the church, and was ſoon enlarged by many additional buildings; Cardinal Pole built the gate, which, for that time, is a noble ſtructure. The Lollards tower, which is thus named from a room in it prepared for the impriſonment of the followers of Wickliff, the firſt Engliſh reformer, who were called Lollards, was finiſhed by Chichely, and remains a laſting memorial of his cruelty, and anti-chriſtian ſpirit. It is a ſmall room, twelve feet broad and nine long, planked with elm, and there ſtill remain eight rings and ſtaples, to which pious men were chained, for preſuming to differ in opinion from that prelate. The ſpacious hall was erected by Juxon, and the brick edifice between the gate and this hall was begun by Archbiſhop Sancroft, and finiſhed by the immortal Tillotſon.

From the preſent ſtructure being thus erected at different periods, it is not at all ſurpriſing that it has but little appearance of uniformity; but the edifice, though old, is in moſt parts

parts ſtrong; the corners are faced with ruſtic, and the top ſurrounded with battlements; but the principal apartments are well proportioned, and well enlightened: the Gothic work about it is irregularly diſpoſed, and it is in itſelf irregular. Some of the inner rooms are too cloſe and confined; but there are many others open and pleaſant in themſelves, with the advantage of being convenient, and of affording very agreeable proſpects. For as this palace is ſituated on the banks of the Thames, it affords a fine view up and down the river, and from the higher apartments, a proſpect of the country way.—The palace, with the rows of trees before it, and the church of Lambeth adjoining, when viewed from the Thames, make a very pretty pictureſque appearance.

In this palace is a very fine library founded in the year 1610, by Archbiſhop Sancroft, who left by will all his books for the uſe of his ſucceſſors in the archiepiſcopal ſee of Canterbury. This library has been greatly increaſed by the benefactions of the Archbiſhops Abbot, Sheldon, and Tenniſon, and conſiſts of 617 volumes of manuſcript, and above 14500 printed books.

The church, which ſtands by the palace, is a very antique ſtructure, dedicated to St. Mary. It has a ſquare tower, and both that and the body of the church, are crowned with battlements. In this pariſh are eight precincts, denominated the Archbiſhop's, the Prince's, Vauxhall, Kennington, the Marſh, the Wall, Stockwell, and the Dean's precinct.—It is remarkable, that at Lambeth Wall is a ſpot of ground, containing an acre and nineteen poles, named Pedlar's acre, which has belonged to the pariſh from time immemorial, and is ſaid to have been given by a pedlar, upon condition that his picture, with that of his dog, be perpetually preſerved in painted glaſs in one of the windows of the church, which the pariſhioners cauſed to be performed in the ſouth-eaſt window of the middle iſle.

This is a very large pariſh, and contains many hundred houſes. There is a ſchool here, which was founded by Richard Laurence, citizen and merchant of London, in the year 1661, for educating twenty poor children of the Marſh and Wall liberties of this pariſh, for which purpoſe he endowed it with 35l. per ann. And by the road ſide, from Vauxhall to Kingſton, is an alms-houſe for ſeven poor women, built in 1618 by Caron the Dutch Ambaſſador, who reſided in England 28 years.

In

In the Marſh and St. George's Fields, ditches were made when London was beſieged by the Daniſh King Canute, who turned the courſe of the Thames from about the King's barge-houſe to a place beyond the bridge; and it was here that Prince died in his cups.

VAUXHALL is one of the eight precincts of the pariſh of Lambeth; but is particularly famous for the pleaſantneſs of the gardens, which have been for many years converted into a place of elegant entertainment, during the ſpring and ſummer ſeaſons. They were the beſt of the kind perhaps in the world: in the midſt of the garden is a ſuperb orcheſtra, containing a fine organ, and a band of muſic, with ſome of the beſt voices, and the ſeats or boxes are diſpoſed to the beſt advantage with reſpect to hearing the muſic. In moſt of the boxes are pictures painted from the deſigns of Mr. Hayman, on ſubjects admirably adapted to the place. But there are in the grand pavilion four pictures of his own hand, from the hiſtorical plays of Shakeſpeare, that are univerſally admired for the deſign, colouring, and expreſſion. And in the ball-room there are ſome very fine hiſtorical pieces by Mr. Hayman, chiefly relating to the ſucceſſes of the late war. The trees in theſe gardens are ſcattered here with a pleaſing confuſion. At ſome diſtance are ſeveral noble viſtas of very tall trees, where the ſpaces between each are filled up with neat hedges, and on the inſide are planted flowers and ſweet ſmelling ſhrubs. Some of theſe viſtas terminate in a view of ruins, and others in a proſpect of the adjacent country, and ſome are adorned with the painted repreſentation of triumphal arches. There are here alſo ſeveral ſtatues, and in particular a good one in marble by Mr. Roubiliac, of the late Mr. Handel, playing on a lyre in the character of Orpheus. As Ranelagh has its rotunda, ſo here alſo is a rotund and ball room, finely illuminated, in which is an orcheſtra with an organ, where, if the weather proves rainy, the company may be ſafely ſheltered and entertained. Some of the principal walks have alſo lately been covered in a very elegant manner. And when it grows dark the garden near the orcheſtra is illuminated, almoſt in an inſtant, with about 1500 glaſs lamps, which glitter among the trees, and render it exceeding light and brilliant: and ſoon after a very extraordinary piece of machinery has of late been exhibited, on the inſide of one of the hedges near the entrance into the viſtas: by removing a curtain is ſhewn a very fine landſcape illuminated by concealed lights; in which the

the principal objects that ſtrike the eyes are the caſcade or waterfall, and a miller's houſe. The exact appearance of water is ſeen flowing down a declivity, and turning the wheel of the mill: it riſes up in foam at the bottom, and then glides away. This moving picture, attended with the noiſe of the water, has a very pleaſing and ſurpriſing effect both on the eye and ear. Every thing is provided in theſe gardens in the moſt elegant manner, for ſuch company as chuſe to ſtay and ſup here.

NEWINGTON BUTTS.

This is a village extending from the end of Blackman-ſtreet, to Kennington Common, and is ſaid to have received the name of Butts, from the exerciſe of ſhooting at Butts, much practiſed both here and in moſt other parts of England, in the reign of Henry VIII. to fit men to ſerve in the army as archers. The Drapers and Fiſhmongers company have alms-houſes here. In the church-yard an handſome monument has lately been erected to the memory of Mr. Allen, a young man who was murdered in St. George's Fields by ſome of the foot-guards, when they were wantonly ſent out to inflict military execution on an unarmed mob, at the time that Mr. Wilkes was confined in the King's Bench Priſon. Several other perſons were infamouſly butchered at the ſame time, under the pretence of ſuppreſſing a riot; for the Miniſtry rather choſe to endeavour to intimidate the people, by theſe violent methods, and thereby bring them to a tame ſubmiſſion to every arbitrary meaſure, than to regulate their own conduct by the principles of law, and of the conſtitution.

BATTERSEA.

This is a village in Surrey, ſituated on the river Thames, four miles from London. It gives the title of baron to Lord Viſcount Bolingbroke. The manor was given to that nobleman's anceſtors, together with Wandſworth, by King Charles I. and Sir Walter St. John founded a free-ſchool here for twenty poor boys, and endowed it with 200l. of which the intereſt was to put one or more of them apprentice; and the lady St. John alſo gave 100l. the intereſt of which was likewiſe to put a poor boy or girl apprentice every year. The gardens about this place are noted for producing the fineſt aſparagus. A bridge has been lately erected from hence to Chelſea, on the oppoſite ſide of the Thames.

Two miles to the ſouth-weſt of Batterſea is *Wandſworth*, a village that has ſeveral handſome houſes belonging to the gentry and citizens of London, and is ſaid to have obtained its name from the river Wandle, which paſſes through it, under a bridge into the Thames. There are here copper-works, ſaid to have been firſt erected by certain Dutchmen, and a fair held on Monday, Tueſday, and Wedneſday, in Whitſun-week.

PUTNEY.

This is a village ſituated on the Thames, to the north-weſt of Wandſworth, and oppoſite to Fulham, to which it is joined by a bridge. Here is an old church, erected after the ſame model with that of Fulham; and they are both ſaid to have been built by two ſiſters. That part of Putney which joins to the heath, commands a fine view, both up and down the river Thames; and here the citizens of London have many pretty ſeats. In the church, which ſtands near the Thames, are ſeveral handſome monuments, moſt of them modern. In this village was born the famous Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Eſſex, in the reign of King Henry the Eighth, whoſe father was a blackſmith here.

Fulham is a village on the other ſide of the Thames, in the county of Middleſex, four miles from London. In William the Conqueror's time this was held of the King by the canons of St. Paul's; and there is an ancient houſe here, which is moated about, and belongs to the Biſhop of London. King Henry the Third often lay in it. There is a toll paid for paſſing over the wooden bridge from hence to Putney, not only for horſes, coaches, and all carriages, but even by foot-paſſengers.

WIMBLETON.

This is a village in Surrey, three miles ſouth of Putney church, where Ethelbert King of Kent was defeated in a battle by Ceaulin the Weſt Saxon, in the year 568. Wimbleton-houſe ſtands about half a mile ſouth from the road, on Wimbleton-common. It was built by Sir Thomas Cecil, ſon of the Lord Treaſurer Burleigh, in the year 1588; and was afterwards General Lambert's, who had here the fineſt flower-garden in England. The manor of Wimbledon was purchaſed by Sarah Churchill, Dutcheſs Dowager of Marlborough; and is now the property of Lord Spencer, together with a fine ſeat

ſhe built here, which is adorned with a grand terrace walk, that has a fine proſpect to the ſouth. Wimbleton-common or heath, which is ſuppoſed to be as high as Hampſtead Heath, is about a mile each way, and is adorned on the ſides with ſeveral handſome ſeats.

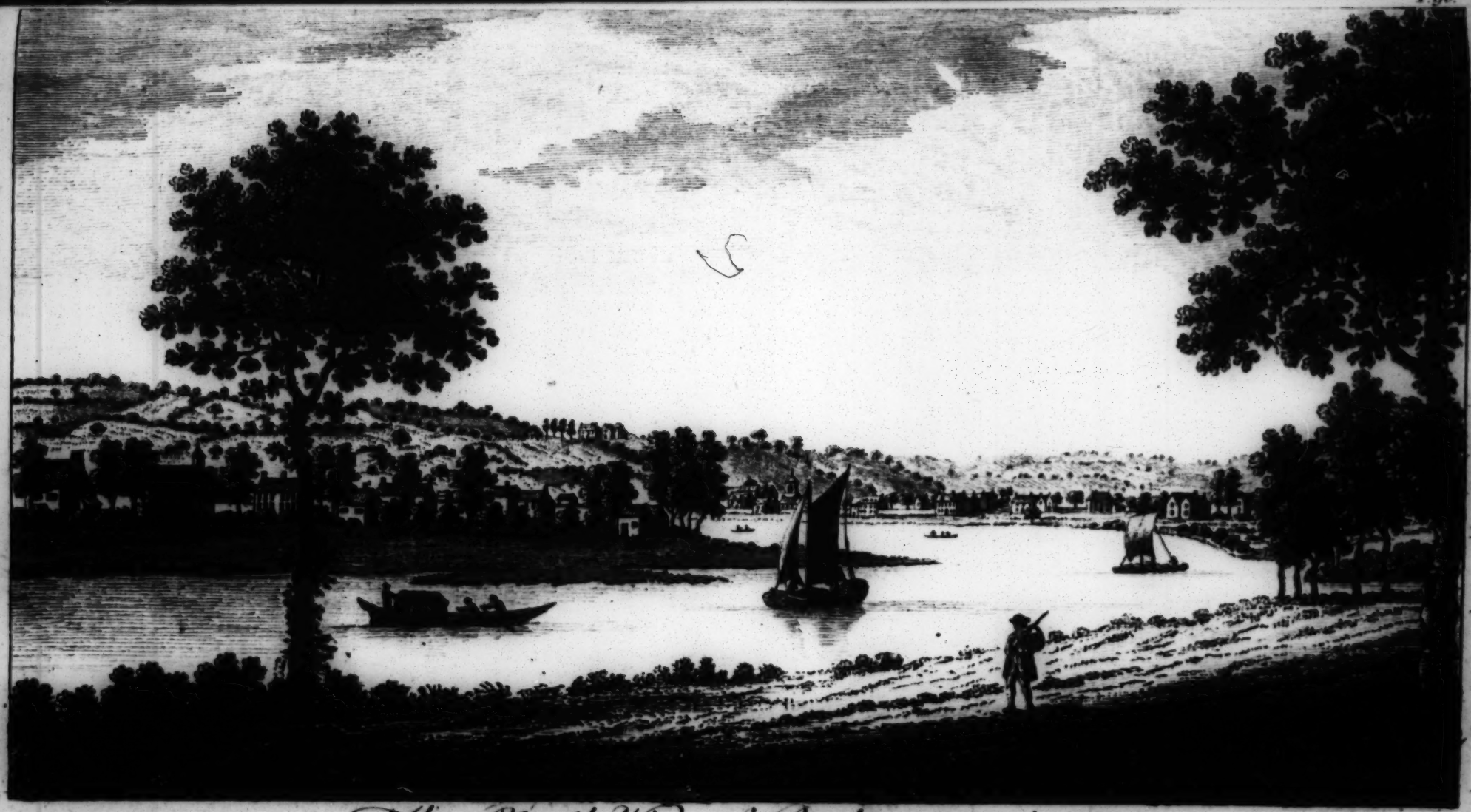
Roehampton is ſituated between Putney Heath and Eaſt-Sheen, and is one of the pleaſanteſt villages near London, having in it ſeveral fine houſes of merchants; but they are ſcattered about, ſo as not to reſemble a ſtreet, or regular town.

EAST-SHEEN.

This is a pleaſant village, ſituated a little to the ſouth of Mortlake, where is the fine ſeat of the Lord Viſcount Palmerſton, the ſucceſſor of Sir William Temple. The gardens were laid out and compleated by Sir William Temple, who ſpent much of his time here. This eminent man was an excellent judge of gardening, and was very fond of his garden; in which he ſomewhat reſembled Epicurus, whom in this reſpect he admired, and concerning whom he thus expreſſes himſelf, in his Eſſay on *Gardening*. 'Epicurus (ſays he) paſſed his life 'wholly in his garden; there he ſtudied, there he exerciſed, 'there he taught his philoſophy; and indeed, no other ſort of 'abode ſeems to contribute ſo much, to both the tranquility of 'mind, and indolence of body, which he made his chief ends. 'The ſweetneſs of air, the pleaſantneſs of ſmells, the verdure 'of plants, the cleanneſs and lightneſs of food, his exerciſes 'of working or walking, but above all, the exemption from 'cares and ſolicitude, ſeem equally to favour and improve, both contemplation and health, the enjoyments of 'ſenſe and imagination, and thereby the quiet and eaſe both of 'body and mind.'

Barnes is a village in Surrey, almoſt encompaſſed by the Thames. It lies between Mortlake and Barn Elms, and is ſeven miles from London, and five from Kingſton.—*Mortlake* is ſituated on the Thames, between Putney and Richmond, about one mile weſt of Barnes. Here are two charity-ſchools, and a famous manufacture for weaving tapeſtry hangings.

ESHER.



The North View of Rochampton in Surrey.



A View of Esher Place in Surrey.

E S H E R.

This is a village in Surrey, about ſeventeen miles from London, ſituated near Walton-upon-Thames and Hampton-court, of which laſt it affords a fine proſpect, as well as of the other parts of Middleſex.

Eſher Place was the ſeat of the late Henry Pelham, Eſq. The houſe is a Gothic ſtructure, built of a browniſh red brick, with ſtone facings to the doors, windows, &c. It ſtands upon almoſt the loweſt ground belonging to it, and has the river Mole gliding cloſe by it and through the grounds. This houſe was originally one of thoſe built by Cardinal Wolſey; but the late Mr. Pelham rebuilt the whole, except the two towers in the body of the houſe, which are the ſame that belonged to the old building, and the whole is rebuilt in the ſame ſtyle of architecture it was before, which uniformity is certainly better than an unnatural mixture of Gothic and modern too often practiſed. There is a fine ſummer houſe built upon a hill on the left hand as you enter, which commands the view of the houſe, park, and country round on both ſides the Thames for many miles. The park and ground in which the houſe is ſituated appears quite plain and unadorned; yet perhaps not a little art has been uſed to give it this natural and ſimple appearance, which is certainly very pleaſing. But in one part of it there is a pretty wilderneſs laid out in walks, and planted with a variety of ever green trees and plants, with a grotto in it, and ſeats in different places. The wood in the park is well diſpoſed, and conſiſts of fine oak, elm, and other trees, and the whole country round appears finely ſhaded with wood.

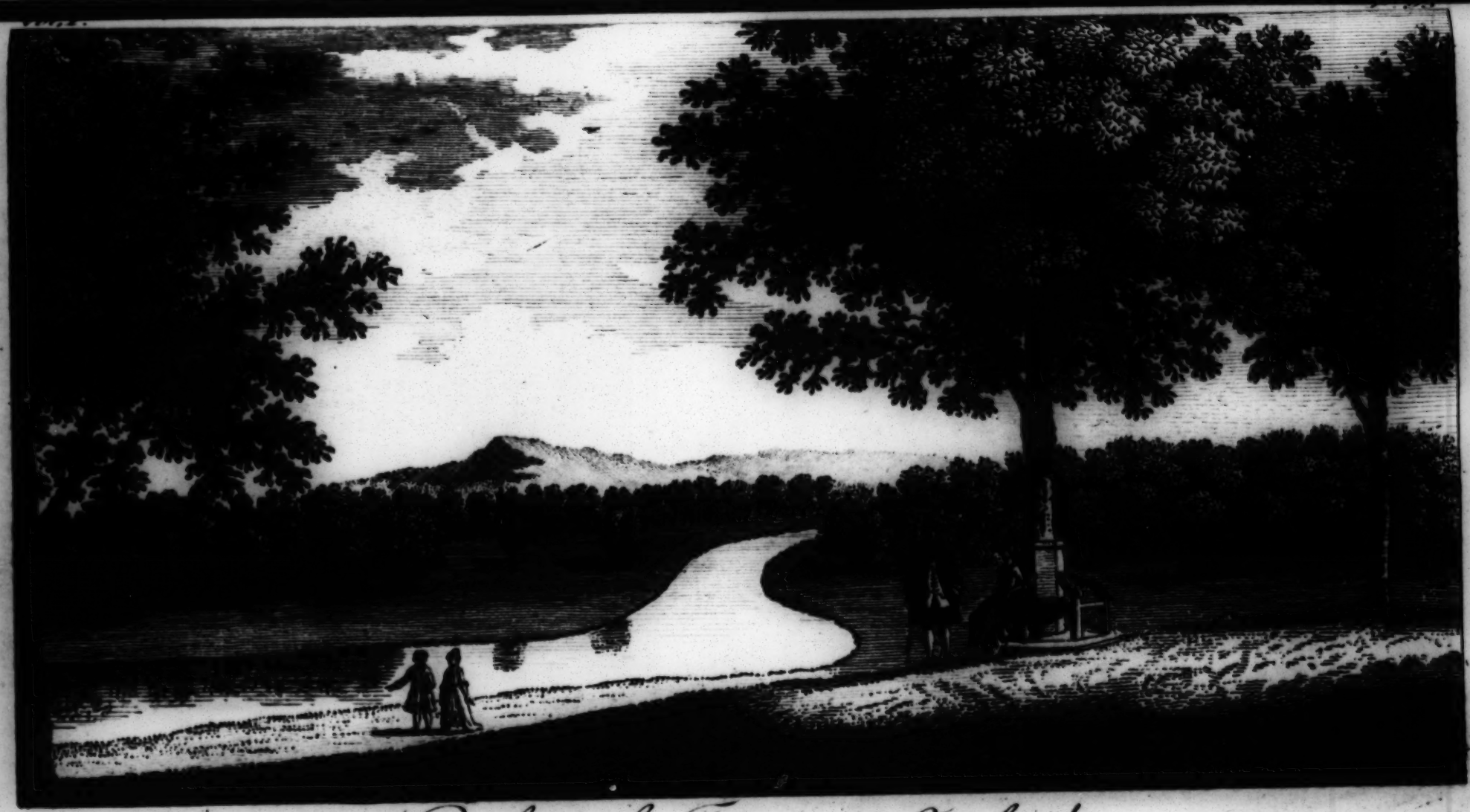
The grand floor of the houſe is elegantly finiſhed, and conſiſts of ſix rooms. The great parlour is carved and gilt in a taſte ſuitable to the ſtyle of the houſe, with curious marble chimney pieces and ſlab. In this room are the portraits of Mr. Pelham, Sir Robert Walpole, afterwards Earl of Orford, Lord Townſhend, the Duke of Rutland, the late Duke of Devonſhire, and the late Duke of Grafton; a picture of Lady Catharine Pelham and her ſon is over the chimney. In the drawing room over the chimney, there is a picture of King Charles II, when only eleven years old, by Vandyke. The library is curiouſly finiſhed, and there is a good collection of books in it.

CLAREMONT.

This fine ſeat, which is a little beyond Eſher, and which was the property of the late Duke of Newcaſtle, is now the ſeat of Lord Clive. The houſe was deſigned and built by the late Sir John Vanburgh, in a whimſical ſtyle of architecture. It was afterwards purchaſed of Sir John by the late Duke of Newcaſtle, who was at a great expence in improving the place. The ſtructure, though ſingular, does not appear to be irregular. It is built of brick with a deal of variety in it, and of conſiderable extent, but not much elevated. The Duke built a grand room for the reception of company when numerous, which makes the ends of the houſe not appear ſimilar. The houſe has a lawn in the front, ſhaded on each ſide with trees, and the ground behind it riſing gradually ſhews the trees there alſo, ſo that the houſe appears to be embowered by them, except juſt in the front; and the white ſummer-houſe with four little pinnacles, one at each corner, built on the mount which gives names to the place, when viewed from before the front of the houſe, riſes up finely from behind the trees, and altogether forms a very pleaſing appearance. The park in which it is ſituated is diſtinguiſhed by its noble woods, lawns, walks, mounts, proſpects, &c. The ſummer-houſe called the Belvedere, at about a mile diſtance from the houſe, on that ſide of the park next Eſher, affords a very beauiful and extenſive view of the country quite round, yet that from the ſummer-houſe at Eſher Place is perhaps no way inferior to it.

CHERTSEY.

This is a market town in Surrey, nineteen miles from London, and ſtands upon the bank of the Thames, over which it has a bridge. The inhabitants trade much in malt, which is ſent in barges to London. Here is an handſome free-ſchool, which was erected by Sir William Perkins, who had a ſeat here. There are annual fairs here on the firſt Monday in Lent, and on May 3, July 26, and September 14. Here was once an abbey, by the ruins of which the ſtreets are ſomewhat raiſed. Sir Nicholas Carew, maſter of the buck hounds to Charles the Second, built a fine houſe here with the ruins of the abbey.—This is the place to which our celebrated poet COWLEY retired, in the latter part of his life, and where he died. And in this retreat, as Sprat expreſſes it, ‘ ſome few



View from the Terrace at Oat-lands.



A View of the Cascade at Ham Farm.

'friends and books, a chearful heart, and an innocent con-
'ſcience, were his conſtant companions.'

WEYBRIDGE.

This is a village in Surrey, four miles ſouth weſt of Hampton-court, which derives its name from a bridge formerly erected here over the river Wey. About this village are ſeveral fine ſeats, particularly thoſe of the preſent Duke of Newcaſtle, and the Earl of Portmore.

OATLANDS is the ſeat of Henry, Duke of Newcaſtle, and Earl of Lincoln. The park is about four miles round. The houſe is ſituated about the middle of the terrace, the majeſtic grandeur of which, and the beautiful landſcape which it commands, words cannot deſcribe, nor the pencil delineate, ſo as to give an adequate idea of this fine ſcene.

The ſerpentine river which you look down upon from the terrace, though artificial, appears as beautiful as it could do were it natural; and a ſtranger who did not know the place would conclude it to be the Thames, in which opinion he would be confirmed by the view of Walton bridge over that river, which by a happy contrivance is made to look like a bridge over it, and cloſes the proſpect that way finely.

HAM FARM is the ſeat of the Earl of Portmore. The houſe is a large handſome ſtructure, built regularly of brick, with a fine lawn before the garden front. The grounds about it conſiſt of about 500 acres, 130 of which are laid out for pleaſure, beſides a paddock of about 60 acres. Here is a fine command of water, there being two navigable rivers, the Thames, which comes with a fine bending courſe by the ſide of the terrace, and the Wey, which runs directly through the grounds, and joins the Thames at the terrace. There is a ſwing bridge over the Wey, which may be turned aſide at pleaſure, to let boats and other veſſels paſs. The Wey is navigable up to Guildford and other places. The terrace next the Thames is beautiful; and though it lies upon a flat, there are ſome good views from it, and from other parts of the gardens. This place was firſt beautified by the Counteſs of Dorcheſter, in the reign of James II.

WALTON UPON THAMES.

This is a village in Surrey, ſituated on the Thames, oppoſite to Shepperton in Middleſex. It is ſaid that the laſt mentioned

tioned county once joined to this town, till about 300 years ago, the old current of the Thames was changed by an inundation, and a curch deſtroyed by the waves.

At this place is a very curious bridge over the Thames, erected by the public ſpirited Samuel Decker, Eſq; who lived in this town, and who applying to parliament for that purpoſe, obtained in the year 1747, an act to empower him to erect a bridge there, and this admirable ſtructure was completed in Auguſt 1750.

It conſiſts of only four ſtone piers, between which are three large truſs arches of beams and joiſts of wood, ſtrongly bound together with mortiſes, iron pins, and cramps; under theſe three arches the water conſtantly runs; beſides which are five other arches of brick work on each ſide, to render the aſcent and deſcent the more eaſy; but there is ſeldom water under any of them, except in great floods, and four of them on the Middleſex ſide are ſtopped up, they being on high ground above the reach of the floods.

The middle arch, when viewed by the river ſide, affords an agreeable proſpect of the country, beautifully diverſified with wood and water, which is ſeen through it to a conſiderable diſtance. The prodigious compaſs of this great arch to a perſon below, occaſions a very uncommon ſenſation of awe and ſurprize; and his aſtoniſhment and attention are encreaſed, when he proceeds to take notice, that all the timbers are in a falling poſition; for there is not one upright piece to be diſcovered; and at the ſame time conſiders the very ſmall dimenſions of the piers by which the whole is ſupported.

In paſſing over this bridge, when you have proceeded paſt the brick-work, the vacant interſtices between the timbers, yield, at every ſtep, a variety of proſpects, which, at the centre, are ſeen to a ſtill greater advantage. But though each ſide is well ſecured by the timber and rails, to the height of eight feet; yet it affords only a parapet of wide lattice work, and the apertures ſeem, even to the eye, large enough to admit the paſſage of any perſon to go through, provided he climbs, or is lifted up; and as the water is ſeen through every opening to a great depth below, thoſe unuſed to ſuch views cannot approach the ſide without ſome apprehenſions.

It would, indeed, have been eaſy to have cloſed theſe openings between the braces and rails with boards, but they are purpoſely left open to admit a free paſſage for the air,

in

in order to keep the timbers the more ſound, and that the leaſt decay may be the more eaſily perceived and repaired.

From this admirable bridge the nobility and gentry in this neighbourhood find a very agreeable benefit, eſpecially as the ferries are dilatory, dangerous, and at times impaſſable; and its being erected has cauſed the roads thereabouts, in both counties, eſpecially on the Surrey ſide, to be greatly improved.

KINGSTON UPON THAMES.

This is a town in Surrey, twelve miles from London, which received its name from its having been the reſidence of ſeveral of our Saxon Kings, ſome of whom were crowned on a ſtage in the market place. It is a populous and well built place, and in the reigns of Edward the Second and Third, ſent members to parliament. Here is a ſpacious church with eight bells, in which are pictures of the Saxon Kings who were crowned here, and alſo that of King John, who gave the inhabitants of this town their firſt charter. Here is alſo a wooden bridge of twenty arches over the Thames; a free-ſchool erected and endowed by Queen Elizabeth; an alms-houſe built in 1670 by Alderman Clive, for ſix men, and as many women, and endowed with land to the value of 80l. a year; and a charity ſchool for thirty boys, who are all cloathed. The ſummer aſſizes for this county are generally held here. There is a gallery on the top of a hill here, that overlooks the town. Beſides the above bridge, there is another of brick over a ſtream, that flows from a ſpring which riſes four miles above the town, and within the diſtance of a bow ſhot from its ſource, forms a brook that drives two mills. Here is a good market for corn, and the town carries on a conſiderable trade.

Hircomb's Place here was one of the houſes of Richard Nevil, Earl of Warwick, who was ſurnamed *the King-maker*, becauſe he placed Edward the Fourth upon the throne, and afterwards, dethroning him again, reſtored Henry the Sixth. This famous nobleman, in fortune, power, and influence, was the moſt conſiderable ſubject who ever appeared in England. In the magnificence of his living, and his unbounded hoſpitality, he excelled all his cotemporaries. Whether he reſided in town, or in the country, he always kept open houſe. At his houſe in London, we are told, ſix oxen were generally eaten daily for breakfaſt. Every ſoldier might come into his kitchen, and take away whatever meat he could carry off upon

upon the point of his dagger; which is not a ſtronger proof of the hoſpitality of this Lord, than of the plain and ſimple manners of the age in which he lived. It is ſaid by ſome writers, that no leſs than thirty thouſand perſons lived daily at his board, in the different manors and caſtles which he poſſeſſed in England.

HAMPTON COURT.

This royal palace is delightfully ſituated on the north bank of the river Thames, about two miles from Kingſton, fourteen from London, and at a ſmall diſtance from a village called Hampton. This magnificent ſtructure was built with brick by Cardinal Wolſey, who here ſet up two hundred and eighty ſilk beds for ſtrangers only, and richly ſtored it with gold and ſilver plate; but it raiſed ſo much envy againſt him, that to ſcreen himſelf from its effects, he gave it to King Henry VIII. who, in return, ſuffered him to live in his palace of Richmond. King Henry greatly enlarged it, and it had then five ſpacious courts adorned with buildings, which in that age were ſo greatly admired by all foreigners as well as the natives, that the learned Grotius ſays of this place:

Si quis opes neſcit (ſed quis tamen ille?) Britannus,
Hampton Curia, tuos conſultat ille Lares;
Contulerit toto cum ſparſa palatia mundo,
Dicet, Ibi Reges, hic habitare Deos.

That is,

If e'er a Briton what is wealth don't know; let him repair to Hampton Court, and then view all the palaces of the earth, when he will ſay, Thoſe are the reſidence of Kings, but this of the Gods.

In order to give a more perfect idea of this grandeur, we ſhall give a deſcription of the ornaments of this palace, as they appeared in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, from an author who deſcribes what he himſelf ſaw.

"The chief area, ſays he, is paved with ſquare ſtone; "in its center is a fountain that throws up water, covered "with a gilt crown, on the top of which is a ſtatue of Ju- "ſtice, ſupported by columns of black and white marble. The "chapel of this palace is moſt ſplendid, in which the Queen's "cloſet is quite tranſparent, having its windows of cryſtal. "We were led into two chambers called the audience, or "chambers of audience, which ſhone with tapeſtry of gold

"and



The Royal Palace of Hampton Court.

" and ſilver, and ſilk of different colours; under the canopy " of ſtate are theſe words embroidered in pearl, VIVAT " HENRICUS OCTAVUS. Here is beſides a ſmall chapel " richly hung with tapeſtry, where the Queen performs her " devotions. In her bed-chamber the bed was covered with " very coſtly coverlids of ſilk. At no great diſtance from " this room we were ſhewn a bed, the teaſter of which was " worked by Anne Boleyn, and preſented by her to her " huſband Henry VIII. All the other rooms being very " numerous, are adorned with tapeſtry of gold, ſilver, and " velvet, in ſome of which were woven hiſtory pieces, in " others Turkiſh and American dreſſes, all extremely na- " tural.

" In the hall are theſe curioſities: a very clear looking " glaſs, ornamented with columns and little images of alaba- " ſter; a portrait of Edward VI. brother to Queen Elizabeth; " the true portrait of Lucretia; a picture of the battle of Pa- " via; the hiſtory of Chriſt's paſſion, carved in mother of " pearl; the portrait of Mary Queen of Scots; the picture " of Ferdinand Prince of Spain, and of Philip his ſon; that " of Henry VIII. under which was placed the Bible, curiouſly " written on parchment; an artificial ſphere; ſeveral muſi- " cal inſtruments: in the tapeſtry are repreſented negroes " riding upon elephants; the bed in which Edward VI. is " ſaid to have been born, and where his mother, Jane Sey- " mour, died in childbed. In one chamber were ſeveral ex- " ceſſively rich tapeſtries, which are hung up when the " Queen gives audience to foreign ambaſſadors; there were " many counterpanes and coverlids of beds lined with ermine. " In ſhort, all the walls of the palace ſhine with gold and " ſilver. Here is beſides a certain cabinet called Paradiſe, " where beſides that every thing glitters ſo with ſilver, gold, " and jewels, as to dazzle one's eyes, there is a muſical in- " ſtrument made all of glaſs, except the ſtrings. After- " wards we were led into the gardens, which are moſt plea- " ſant." Such was the account given of the magnificence of this palace, two centuries ago by Hentzner, the German.

This palace is, with the parks, encompaſſed in a ſemi-circle by the Thames. King William and Queen Mary were ſo greatly pleaſed with its ſituation, which rendered it capable of great improvements, and of being made one of the nobleſt palaces in Europe, that while the former was cauſing the old apartments to be pulled down, and rebuilt in the more

beautiful manner in which they now appear, her Majeſty, impatient to enjoy ſo agreeable a retreat, fixed upon a building near the river, called the Water Gallery, and ſuiting it to her convenience, adorned it with the utmoſt elegance, though its ſituation would not allow it to ſtand after the principal building was compleated.

Since the pulling down of the Water Gallery, which ſtood before the fine ſtone front that faces the river, the ground to the ſouth weſt has received conſiderable improvements. This ſpot is laid out in ſmall incloſures, ſurrounded with tall hedges, in order to break the violence of the winds, and render them proper for the reception of ſuch exotic plants as were moved thither in ſummer out of the conſervatories. Here are two baſons conſtantly ſupplied with water, for the ſupport of theſe plants in dry weather; and as theſe are ſituated near the great apartments, moſt of the plants may be viewed from the windows.

At a ſmall diſtance to the weſt, ſtood a large hot-houſe, for preſerving ſuch tender exotic plants as require a greater ſhare of warmth than is generally felt in this climate. Of this part of gardening Queen Mary was ſo fond, that ſhe allowed a handſome ſalary to Dr. Plukenet, a very learned botaniſt, for overlooking and regiſtering the curious collection of plants ſhe cauſed to be brought into the garden; but ſince her Majeſty's death they have been much neglected, and very few of the moſt curious plants are now to be found there.

The park and gardens, with the ground on which the palace now ſtands, are about three miles in circumference. On a pediment at the front of the palace on this ſide, is a bas relief of the triumphs of Hercules over Envy; and facing it a large oval baſon, anſwering to the form of this part of the garden, which is a large oval divided into gravel walks and parterres, laid out in an elegant manner, by thoſe two eminent gardeners, London and Wiſe.

At the entrance of the grand walk, are two large marble vaſes, of exquiſite workmanſhip, one ſaid to be performed by Mr. Cibber, father to the poet laureat, and the other by a foreigner; theſe pieces are reported to be done as a trial of ſkill; but it is difficult to determine which is the fineſt performance. They are beautifully adorned with bas-relief; that on the right hand, repreſenting the triumphs of Bacchus, and the other on the left, Amphitrite and the Nereides. At the bottom of this walk, facing a large canal which runs into the park, are two other large vaſes, the bas-relief on one repreſenting

ſenting the judgment of Paris; and that on the other Meleager hunting the wild boar.

In four of the parterres are four fine braſs ſtatues. The firſt is a gladiator, which formerly ſtood in the parade of St. James's Park, at the foot of the canal, and was removed thither in the reign of Queen Anne. The original was performed by Agaſias Deſitheus of Epheſus, and is in the Borgheſian palace at Rome. The ſecond is a young Apollo; the third a Diana; and the fourth, Saturn going to devour one of his children: all after fine originals.

On the ſouth ſide of the palace is the privy garden, which was ſunk ten feet, to open a view from the apartments to the river Thames; in this garden is a fine fountain, and two grand terrace walks.

On the north ſide of the palace is a tennis court: and beyond that a gate which leads into the wilderneſs: farther on is the great gate of the gardens, on the ſides of which are large ſtone piers, with the lion and unicorn couchant, in ſtone.

At the gates of the firſt entrance into the palace, are four large brick piers, adorned with the lion and unicorn, each of them holding a ſhield, whereon are the arms of Great Britain, with ſeveral trophies of war well carved on ſtone.

Paſſing through a long court yard, on each ſide of which are ſtabling for the officers of his Majeſty's houſhold, we come next to the firſt portal, which is ſtrongly built of brick, and decorated by Wolſey with the heads of four of the Cæſars, Trajan and Adrian on one ſide, and on the other Tiberius and Vitellius.

Thro' this portal we paſs into a large quadrangle, remarkable for nothing extraordinary, but its ſpaciouſneſs and uniformity. This leads to a ſecond quadrangle, where over the portal is a beautiful aſtronomical clock, made by the celebrated Tompion, on which are curiouſly repreſented the twelve ſigns of the zodiac, with the riſing and ſetting of the ſun, the various phaſes of the moon, and other ornaments, and indications of time.

On the left hand of this quadrangle is the great old hall, in which, by Queen Caroline's command, was erected a theatre, wherein it was intended that two plays ſhould have been acted every week, during the time of the court's continuance there; but Mr. Colley Cibber obſerves, that only ſeven plays were performed in it, by the players from Drury-lane, the

ſummer when it was raiſed, and one afterwards for the entertainment of the Duke of Lorrain, afterwards Emperor of Germany. In the front is a portal of brick, decorated with four Cæſars heads without names.

One the oppoſite ſide of this quadrangle is a ſtone colonade of fourteen columns, and two pilaſters of the Ionic order, with an entablature and baluſtrade at the top, adorned in the middle with two large vaſes.

This leads to the great ſtaircaſe, adorned with iron balluſters curiouſly wrought and gilt, the whole erected on porphyry. From the cieling hangs, by a ſtrong braſs chain, gilt, a large glaſs lanthorn which holds ſixteen candles, and has an imperial crown at the top. This ſtaircaſe, with the cieling, were painted by Signor Verrio, an Italian, by order of King William III.

At the top, on the left ſide, are Apollo and the nine Muſes, at whoſe feet ſits the God Pan with his unequal reeds, and a little below them the Goddeſs Ceres, holding in one hand a wheat ſheaf, and with the other pointing to loaves of bread; at her feet is Flora, ſurrounded by her attendants, and holding in her right hand a chaplet of flowers; near her are the two river Gods, Thame and Iſis, with their urns; and a large table in the middle, upon which is a quantity of rich plate, decorated with flowers.

On the cieling are Jupiter and Juno, with Ganymede riding on Jupiter's eagle, and offering the cup. Juno's peacock is in the front: one of the Parcæ, with her ſciſſars in her hand, ſeems to wait for Jove's orders to cut the thread of life. Theſe figures are covered with a fine canopy ſurrounded with the ſigns of the zodiac, and by ſeveral zephyrs, with flowers in their hands; and on one ſide of them is Fame with her two trumpets.

Beneath is a beautiful figure of Venus riding on a ſwan, Mars addreſſing himſelf to her as a lover, and Cupid riding on another ſwan.

On the right hand are Pluto and Proſerpine, Cœlus and Terra, Cybele crowned with a tower, and others. Neptune and Amphitrite are in the front, and two attendants are ſerving them with nectar and fruit. Bacchus is leaning on a rich ewer, and, being accompanied by his attendants, places his left hand on the head of Silenus, who ſits on an aſs that is fallen down, he ſeeming to catch at a table, to which Diana above is pointing. The table is ſupported by eagles; on one ſide of it ſits Romulus, the founder of Rome, with a wolf;

and

and on the other ſide of it is Hercules leaning on his club. Peace in her right hands holds a laurel, and in her left a palm over the head of Æneas, who ſeems inviting the twelve Cæſars, among whom is Spurina the ſoothſayer, to a celeſtial banquet. Over their heads hovers the genius of Rome with a flaming ſword, the emblem of deſtruction, and a bridle, the emblem of government; both in her right hand.

The next is the Emperor Julian writing at a table, while Mercury dictates to him.

Over the door at the head of the ſtairs is a funeral pile, done in ſtone colour; and under the above paintings are thirty-ſix pannels repreſenting trophies of war, and other decorations in the ſame colour.——We ſhall now proceed to give a particular deſcription of the principal apartments of the palace, with their noble furniture and fine paintings.

The Guard Chamber.

From the ſtair-caſe we paſs into the guard-chamber, which is very large and ſpacious, it being upwards of ſixty feet long, and forty feet wide. This room contains arms for five thouſand men, artfully diſpoſed in various forms. Fronting the door are three trophies of drums, hanging in an uniform manner under the windows five in each trophy. There are pilaſters of pikes, bayonets, and bandaleers, on each ſide ſixteen pannels, which go round the room, with a great variety of decorations and figures, as muſkets in chequer work, ſtars made of bayonets, ſwords, &c. alſo circles, ovals, hexagons, and octagons; in the centers of ſome are the famed Meduſa's head, and of others Jupiter's thunder, and other devices carved upon a ſhield: the ſides are garniſhed with bandaleers.

The arms were thus diſpoſed by Mr. Harris, who was the perſon that firſt contrived to place the arms in the ſame beautiful order in the ſmall armoury in the Tower of London, wich is univerſally admired, by people of all nations, who have curioſity to ſurvey them. This man was originally a common gunſmith, but after he had given ſuch public proof of his ingenuity, he was allowed a penſion from the crown.

Over the chimney are the arms of England, &c. with the garter, and motto round them; and underneath is a neat cypher of a W, and over it the royal crown, curiouſly carved in Walnut-tree.

On the right hand of the door as we enter, are the halberts

berts for the Yeomen of the guard, eighteen in number, and a little farther, ſix large carbines, regularly placed on a table.

The King's firſt Preſence-Chamber.

This room is hung with rich old tapeſtry. The cieling is vaulted, and from the center hangs a fine luſture of nineteen branches. Fronting the door are the canopy and chair of ſtate, which, as well as the ſtools, are of crimſon damaſk; on the back part of the canopy are the King's arms, and round the vallance, a crown and cypher embroidered in gold.

On the left hand of the entrance, behind the door is a fine picture about eighteen feet by fifteen, by Sir Godfrey Kneller, of King William III. who is in armour on a ſtately grey horſe, trampling on the trophies of war, by which lies a flaming torch. At the top in the clouds Mercury and Peace ſupport his helmet, decorated with laurel, and a Cupid holds a ſcroll. On the bottom part of the picture appear Neptune and his attendants by the ſide of a rock, welcoming the hero on ſhore; and at a diſtance is ſeen a fleet of ſhips, their ſails ſwelled with the eaſt wind. In the front ground Plenty with her cornucopia offers him an olive branch, and Flora preſents flowers.

Over the chimney is a whole length of the Marquis of Hamilton, Lord Steward of the houſhold to King Charles I. by Van Somer; and over the doors are two pieces of architecture, finely executed by Roſſo.

The Second Preſence-Chamber.

Over the chimney is a whole length of Chriſtian VI. King of Denmark, by Van Somer. This picture, as moſt of the large ones are, is decorated round the frame on the outſide with feſtoons of fruits and flowers, beautifully carved in high-relief in lime wood.

Over all the doors are pieces of ruins and landſcapes by Roſſo.

The hangings of this room are very antient tapeſtry, but very rich, the lights being all gold, and the ſhadows ſilk; the ſubject of thoſe on the left are Hercules and the Hydra; and thoſe on the right Midas with his aſs's ears.

The room is ſpacious, with a vaulted cieling, from the center of which hangs a gilt chandelier of twelve branches. The chair of ſtate and ſtools are of crimſon damaſk, fringed with the

ſame

ſame colour. Here are two tables of fine marble, which have pier-glaſſes over them, with gilt ſtands on each ſide.

The Audience Room.

Over the chimney is a whole length of Elizabeth, queen of Bohemia, who was his late majeſty's great grandmother, and the daughter of King James I. Her huſband, Frederick V. prince elector Palatine of the Rhine, and herſelf likewiſe, were driven out of their kingdom, for want of ſeaſonable ſupport of her father. She came over into England in the year after the reſtoration of her nephew, King Charles II. and died about nine months after that in London, at the Lord Craven's in Drury-Lane, in the year 1662.

Over each of the doors in this room, is a madonna, by Dominico Fetti.

The tapeſtry is fine; the ſubject on one ſide, Abraham and Lot dividing their lands; and on the other, God appears to Abraham in the front, and Abraham is purchaſing a piece of ground for a burying-place.

The room is lofty: in the middle hangs a beautiful chandelier of ſilver, chaſed, with ſixteen branches. Between the windows are glaſſes; and under them tables, finely carved and gilt, ſtand on each ſide.

Here is a fine canopy of ſtate, with window-curtains, chair, and ſtools, of rich crimſon damaſk, laced, and fringed with gold.

The Drawing Room.

Over the chimney-piece is a whole length of King Charles I. which is one of the fineſt pieces of Vandyke; and over the doors are two capital pictures; the firſt is David, with Goliath's head, by Fetti; and the other, the holy family, by Corregio. The other furniture of this room conſiſts of a rich chair of ſtate and ſtools, two large marble tables between the windows, with pier glaſſes up to the cieling, and two pair of fine gilt ſtands: the window-curtains are tiſſue, with a ſilver ground. There are ſix ſilver ſconces on the tapeſtry, which is richly woven in with gold, but is very ancient; the ſubject, the ſcripture-ſtory of Abraham ſending his ſervant to get a wife for Iſaac.

The State Bed-Chamber.

Over the doors are two pieces of flowers, beautifully painted, by Baptiſt.

Over

Over the chimney is a whole length of the dutcheſs of York, (daughter of the Lord Chancellor Hyde, and mother to Queen Mary and Queen Anne) painted by Van Somer; under which, and over the two doors, is a large collection of china, placed there by Queen Mary, who was peculiarly fond of that ſort of ware.

The tapeſtry is the hiſtory of Joſhua, all round the room, which is very ſpacious.

The cieling was painted by Verrio. The ſubject of one part of it is Endymion and the moon: Endymion is lying with his head in Morpheus's lap, and Diana viewing him with the utmoſt attention as he ſleeps.

On another part of the cieling is a fine figure of Somnus, or ſleep, with his attendants. In the border are four land-ſcapes, and four boys, with baſkets of flowers, intermixed with poppies.

The bed is of crimſon velvet, laced with gold, and adorned with white plumes of feathers on the top. There are likewiſe in this room, eight ſilver ſconces chaſed, with the judgment of Solomon upon them; a fine black and gold Indian ſcreen; a large pier-glaſs, ornamented with glaſs, that is cut and tinged with blue; a marble table, and two gilt ſtands: and in one corner, an eight-day clock in a walnut-tree caſe.

The King's Dreſſing-Room.

Over the doors are fine flower-pieces, by Baptiſt.

The cieling is painted by Verri; the ſubject, Mars and Venus. Mars is ſleeping in Venus's lap; ſeveral Cupids are ſtealing away his armour; ſome his coat, others his ſhield, helmet, ſword, and ſpear; while others are binding him about his legs and arms with fetters of roſes. The border is embelliſhed with jeſſamine, orange-trees in pots, and ſeveral ſorts of birds.

The room is about twelve feet long, and ſix wide; and in it are two windows, with rich window-curtains, a neat table between them, on which ſtands a clock; and on the right hand is a curious weather-glaſs. The hangings are of ſtraw-coloured India damaſk; the chair and ſcreen are of the ſame.

The King's Writing-Cloſet.

Over each door is a piece of flowers, by Baptiſt, in a contraſt taſte; and over the chimney is a fine picture by Boug-

Bougdane of all ſorts of birds; the peacock in front, and the principal figure.

In the left hand corner is a curious weather-glaſs; and in another part of the room, an Indian cabinet, filled at top with fine china, placed there by the late Queen Mary.

This cloſet is of a triangular form, and has two windows. The hangings and ſtools are of a pea-green India damaſk; there is a fine collection of china over the chimney, and a glaſs there, ſo placed, as to ſhew all the rooms on that ſide of the building at once.

Queen Mary's Cloſet.

The hangings of this cloſet are all needle-work, ſaid to be wrought with Queen Mary's own hand; there are alſo an eaſy chair, four others, and a ſcreen, all ſaid to be the work of that excellent Queen. The work is extremely neat; the figures are well ſhadowed, perhaps equal to the beſt tapeſtry, and ſhew great judgment in drawing. Over the chimney-piece is an old painting, ſaid to be Raphael's, repreſenting Jupiter's throne, by which is the thunder, and his eagle in the clouds.

The Queen's Gallery.

This is likewiſe called the tapeſtry-gallery, and is about ſeventy feet long, and twenty-five feet wide. It is hung with ſeven beautiful pieces of tapeſtry, repreſenting the hiſtory of Alexander the Great, and done after the famous paintings of Le Brun; they are however not placed according to chronology, for ſome of the laſt actions of Alexander's life are placed before thoſe which preceded them. Under that part of the tapeſtry which repreſents the ſtory of Alexander and Diogenes, and which is placed over the chimney-piece, is a very neat buſt of a Venus in alabaſter ſtanding upon an oval looking-glaſs, under which are two doves billing in baſſo-relievo. Among the other furniture in this gallery, are two very fine tables of Egyptian marble.

The Queen's State Bed-chamber.

Overy the chimney piece is a whole length of King James I. painted by Van Somer.

On his right hand is Anne his royal conſort, ſecond daughter of Frederick, King of Denmark; and on his left, the Princeſs Elizabeth, his daughter, who was afterwards Queen of Bohemia. Theſe were likewiſe both painted by Van Somer.

Over the other door is a beautiful whole length, of that hopeful youth, Henry, Prince of Wales, eldeſt ſon of king James I. who died in the 19th year of his age, amidſt the public rejoicings which were made for the reception of the Palſgrave, who was juſt come over into England, in order to ſolemnize his nuptials with the Princeſs Elizabeth.

The cieling of this bed-chamber was painted by the late Sir James Thornhill. The ſubject is, Aurora riſing out of the ocean in her golden chariot, drawn by four white horſes. In the cornice are four portraits, one on every ſide, 1. His late majeſty King George I. 2. His late majeſty King George II. 3. Her late majeſty Queen Caroline. 4. His royal highneſs the late Prince of Wales.

In this chamber there is likewiſe a fine bed of crimſon damaſk, two Indian ſconces, and a glaſs luſtre, with ſilver nozzles.

The Queen's Drawing-Room.

The cieling here was painted by Signior Verrio, in the middle of which is the figure of the late Queen Anne, repreſenting Juſtice, with the ſcales in one hand, and the ſword in the other; ſhe is dreſſed in a purple robe, lined with ermine; and Neptune and Britannia are holding a crown over her head.

On the ſides of the room are ſeveral other paintings of Verrio, repreſenting the Britiſh fleet; Prince George of Denmark pointing to it; and the four parts of the world ſhewn by four figures; but theſe were thought ſo badly executed, that they are now quite concealed, and covered over with green damaſk hangings, upon which are placed nine pictures, three on each ſide, the length of the room, and three at the end; theſe pieces were formerly all in one, and of a prodigious length, as may be diſcerned by ſome parts of the figures, which have been cut aſunder, ſome in one place and ſome in another. The whole is a triumph of Julius Cæſar, conſiſting of a long proceſſion of ſoldiers, prieſts, officers of ſtate, &c. at the end of which, that Emperor appears in his triumphant chariot, with Victory over his head, crowning him with laurel.

It is painted in water-colours upon canvas, by Andrea Montegna, who was a diſciple of Jacobo Squarcoine.

The Queen's State Audience-room.

There are five whole length pictures in this room, all painted by Holbein. The firſt repreſents the Dutcheſs of Brunſwick.

The

The ſecond the Duke of Brunſwick. The third the Marchioneſs of Brunſwick, their daughter. The fourth the Dutcheſs of Lenox; and the laſt, the Queen of Scots.

The canopy of ſtate here is very rich; as are alſo the tapeſtry-hangings, the ſtory of which is the children of rael carrying the twelve ſtones to the river Jordan, as related in the 4th chapter of the book of Joſhua.

The Prince of Wales's Preſence-chamber.

Over one of the doors is Guzman, over another Gondamor, two Spaniſh Ambaſſadors; over the third is Madame Chatillon, the famous French Admiral's lady; and over the chimney Lewis XIII. of France, with a walking-ſtick in his hand, and a dog by his ſide; all four pictures by Holbein.

The tapeſtry hangings are of green damaſk, wherein is curiouſly wrought the hiſtory of Tobit and Tobias.

Here are two fine gilt ſtands in the form of Termini, and a canopy of ſtate.

The Prince of Wales's Drawing-room.

This is hung with tapeſtry, repreſenting Elymas the ſorcerer ſtruck with blindneſs; this is taken from one of the cartoons. Over the chimney-piece is the Duke of Wirtemburgh; over one of the doors is a whole length of the wife of Philip II. King of Spain; and over the other, a whole length of Count Mansfield, general of the Spaniards in the Low Countries, all by Holbein.

The Prince of Wales's Bed-chamber.

Over one of the doors, is a whole length of the Prince of Parma, governor of the Netherlands; over the chimney-piece is a whole length of the Duke of Lunenburgh; great grandfather to his preſent majeſty; over another door, Philip II. King of Spain; and over a third, the Queen of Denmark, conſort of Chriſtian IV. Theſe are likewiſe painted by Holbein.

The bed is of green damaſk.

The private Dining-room.

Here are four pictures of the Spaniſh armada, by Vander Velde; and over the cimney, a very fine one by Van Dyke,

of the Lord Effingham Howard, Lord High Admiral of England.

The King's private bed chamber is hung with fine tapeſtry, which repreſents the remarkable engagement at Solbay, in the year 1672.—In the *Cartoon gallery* were the celebrated cartoons of Raphael Urbin, ſo called from their being painted on paper. Theſe are ſeven pieces of ſacred hiſtory, taken from the New Teſtament, and were at firſt deſigned only as patterns for tapeſtry. For theſe fine pieces Lewis the Fourteenth is ſaid to have offered 100,000 louis d'ors. The ſubjects of them are, 1. The miraculous draught of fiſhes; 2. The death of Ananias; 3. Elymas the ſorcerer ſtruck with blindneſs; 4. The lame man healed by Peter and John; Paul and Barnabas at Lyſtra; 6. Paul preaching at Athens; and 7. Chriſt's charge to St. Peter, commonly called the giving the keys. Theſe cartoons were the greateſt ornaments of Hampton-court; and attracted the admiration of foreigners, as well as natives of England; and it is ſuppoſed that ſome foreigners, lovers of the fine arts, have made voyages to England chiefly for the purpoſe of viewing them. But theſe admirable pieces have lately, with a *mean ſelfiſhneſs*, unworthy of a great Prince, been removed to Buckingham-houſe, or, as it is now ſtiled, the Queen's Palace, where they are concealed from the public eye. It is ſaid they were damaged by the removal; and it muſt be remembered, that they were not purchaſed by his preſent Majeſty, (which would have altered the nature of the caſe) but placed at Hampton Court by King William III. who built the cartoon gallery on purpoſe for their reception.

The Admirals Gallery.

In this Room are the Pictures of the following renowned Admirals.

1. Sir George Rooke.
2. Sir Cloudeſly Shovel.
3. Sir John Leake.
4. Lord Torrington.
5. Admirl Churchill.
6. Sir Stafford Fairborne.
7. Sir John Jennings.
8. Sir Thomas Hopſon.
9. Admiral Beaumont.
10. Sir Thomas Dilks.
11. Admiral Benbow.
12. Admiral Whetſtone.
13. Admiral Wiſhart.
14. Admiral Gradon.
15. Admiral Munden.

All painted by Sir Godfrey Kneller, and Mr. Dahl.

The



A Scene in the Gardens of Pain's Hill.

The Queen's Stair-caſe

There is here a large picture, in a gold frame, painted by Vi*k, of King Charles II. and Katharine his Queen. The Duke of Buckingham is therein repreſented as Science, in the habit of a Mercury, and Envy is ſtruck down by naked boys.

There are additional ornaments in the Moſaic taſte, on each ſide of the ſtair-caſe as well as the cieling, by Mr. Kent.

The New Quadrangle.

In the center of this ſquare is a round baſon, and four large lamps on pedeſtals of iron work; and on the right hand, over the windows, are the twelve labours of Hercules done in Freſco.

The Room of Beauties.

The firſt is the Lady Peterborough,
2d. Lady Ranelagh.
3d. Lady Middleton.
4th. Miſs Pitt.
5th. Dutch. of St. Alban's.
6th. Lady Eſſex.
7th. Lady Dorſet.
8th. Queen Mary
9th. The Dutcheſs of Grafton.

Queen Mary was painted by Wiſſing, and all the reſt by Sir Godfrey Kneller.

We ſhall conclude our account with obſerving, that the whole palace conſiſts of three quadrangles. The firſt and ſecond are Gothic, but in the latter is a moſt beautiful colonade of the Ionic order, the columns in couplets, built by Sir Chriſtopher Wren. Through this you paſs into the third court or quadrangle, in which are the royal apartments, which were magnificently built of brick and ſtone by King William.

A I N's H I L L.

This fine ſeat, which is near Cobham in Surrey, at the diſtance of about twenty miles from London, belongs to the Hon, Mr. Charles Hamilton, who has made great improvements, by incloſing a large tract of barren land, which though ſo poor as to produce nothing but heath and broom, he has ſo well cultivated and adorned, that few places are equal to it. The whole

whole place is about five miles round: it is laid out in the modern taſte, and planted with a beautiful variety of trees, plants, and flowers. The fine equalities of the ground give a perpetual variety to the proſpects, eſpecially on that ſide next the river Mole, which river though it lies lower than the level of the gardens by twenty feet, is brought into them by means of a wheel curiouſly contrived, which is turned by the river. Every time it turns round it takes up the water and conveys it through a ſpiral pipe from the circumference of the wheel to the center of it, from whence it is diſcharged into a trough, and from thence through pipes into the gardens, where by the joint aſſiſtance of nature and art, it is formed into a fine winding lake or piece of water, with an iſland in it, planted and laid out in walks with bridges over it of the moſt ſimple contrivance, and the whole ſurrounded with riſing grounds, clumps of trees, and hanging woods, in as romantic and pictureſque a manner as imagination can conceive. A collection of fine Italian and other paintings, brought from this elegant ſeat, have been juſt advertiſed to be ſold.

STAINES.

This is a market town, in the county of Middleſex, 17 miles from London, and derives its name from the Saxon word *Stana* which ſignifies a *Stone*, and was applied to this place from a boundary-ſtone, anciently ſet up here to mark the extent of the city of London's juriſdiction upon the Thames. It is a pleaſant populous town, with ſeveral good inns, and has a bridge and a ferry over the river Thames; and being a lordſhip belonging to the crown, is governed by two conſtables and four headboroughs, who are appointed by his majeſty's ſteward. Here is a market on Fridays, and a fair on the 28th of September. The church ſtands alone, almoſt half a mile from the town. From Stanes to Brentford, all that lies between thee high road along Hounſlow, and the Thames, was called the Foreſt, or Warren of Stanes, till Henry III. diſforeſted it.

On the ſouth eaſt ſide of Stanes is *Runny Mead*, celebrated for being the ſpot whereon King John was compelled by his barons to ſign the famous charter of Engliſh liberties, ſtiled *Magna Charta*.

——Near Thames's ſilver waters lies a mead
Wher England's barons, bold in freedom's, cauſe,
Compell'd their king to ratify her laws:

With

With conſtancy maintain'd the ſubject's right,
And ſerv'd a ſov'reign in his own deſpite.
On that fam'd mead, their honeſt claims to ſeal,
They riſk'd their private for the public weal;
Bravely reſolv'd to make the tyrant yield,
Or die, like heroes, on the glorious field.

Runny Mead is now divided into ſeveral encloſures, parcel of the demeſne of the manor of Egham.

E G H A M.

This town is ſituated on the Thames, in the county of Surry, eighteen miles from London, oppoſite to Stanes, and at the diſtance of four miles from Windſor. It is divided into four tithings, and being a thoroughfare from London to the weſt, has ſome very good inns. Here is an handſome charity ſchool, beſides alms-houſes, particularly one, built and endowed by Sir John Denham, one of the barons of the exchequer in the reign of King Charles II. for five poor old women, who have each an orchard. The parſonage houſe here was the ſeat of Sir John Denham, who rebuilt it, and who was the father of the celebrated poet of that name, who took great delight in it.

W I N D S O R.

This very agreeable town, which is twenty-two miles from London, in the county of Berkſhire, is ſuppoſed to derive its name from its *winding ſhore*, on the South ſide of the Thames. It is ſituated on a riſing ground: the principal ſtreet looks ſouthward over a long and ſpacious valley, chequered with corn fields and meadows, interſperſed with groves, and watered by the Thames, which glides through the proſpect in a tranſfluent and gentle ſtream; and, fetching many windings, ſeems to linger in its way. On the other ſide, the country ſwells into hills, which are neither craggy nor over high, but riſe with a gradual aſcent that is covered with perpetual verdure where it is not adorned with trees.

This town was conſtituted a borough by King Edward I. with great privileges, ſuch as exemption from all tolls of bridges, markets, and fairs. It ſent members to parliament from the 39th of that prince's reign, to the 14th of Edward III. when it intermitted till the 25th of Henry VI. but has ſent two members ever ſince. It has charters from both King James I. and II. It is governed by a mayor, high ſteward, under-ſteward,

ward, a town clerk, two bailiffs, and twenty eight other perſons, choſen out of the moſt ſubſtantial inhabitants, thirteen of whom are called fellows or benchers of the Guildhall; and of theſe thirteen, ten are called aldermen; from among whom the mayor and bailiffs are annually choſen. The members of parliament are elected by the inhabitants paying ſcot and lot, who are computed to be in number about three hundred, and the mayor is the returning officer.

The church here is a ſpacious ancient building, ſituated in the high ſtreet of the town, in which is alſo the town houſe, a neat regular edifice, built in 1686, and ſupported with columns and arches of Portland ſtone; at the north end is placed in a niche the ſtatue of Queen Anne, in her royal robes, with the globe and other regalia; and underneath, in the freeze of the intablature of the leſſer columns and arches, is the following inſcription in gold letters:

Anno Regni VI°.
Dom. 1707.

Arte tua, ſculptor, non eſt imitabilis ANNA;
ANNÆ *vis ſimilem ſculpere? ſculpe Deam.*
S. Chapman, *Prætore.*

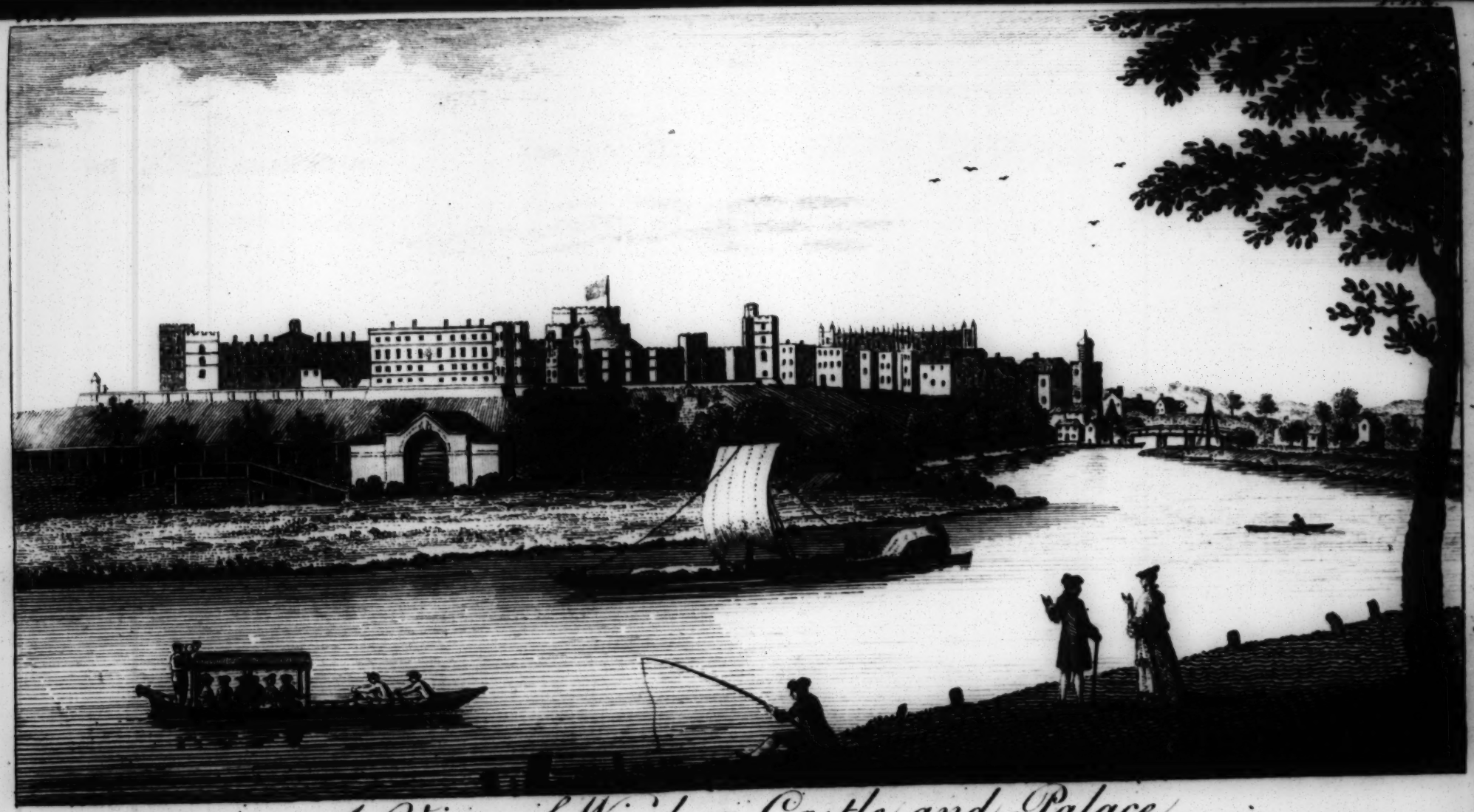
And in another niche on the ſouth ſide is the ſtatue of Prince George of Denmark, her majeſty's royal conſort, in a Romam military habit, and underneath is the following inſcription:

Sereniſſimo Principi
GEORGIA *Princpi* Daniæ.
Heroi omni ſæculo venerando,
Chriſtophorus Wren, *Arm.*
Poſuit. MDCC XIII.

In the area, underneath the town-hall, the market is kept every Saturday, and is plentifully ſupplied with corn, meat, fiſh, and all other proviſions.

WINDSOR-CASTLE is the moſt delightful royal palace in England. It was firſt built by William the Conqueror ſoon after his being eſtabliſhed on the throne of this kingdom, on account of its pleaſant and healthful ſituation, and as a place of ſecurity; was greatly improved by Henry I. who added many additional buildings, and ſurrounded the whole with a ſtrong wall.

Our



A View of Windsor Castle and Palace.

Our ſucceeding Monarchs reſided in the ſame caſtle, till King Edward III. cauſed the antient building to be taken down; erected the preſent ſtately caſtle, and St. George's chapel; incloſed the whole with a ſtrong wall or rampart of ſtone, and inſtituted the order of the garter.

It may be proper to obſerve, that William of Wykeham, afterwards Biſhop of Wincheſter, was principally employed by Edward III. in building this caſtle, and when he had finiſhed it, he cauſed this doubtful ſentence to be cut on one of the towers.

THIS MADE WYKEHAM.

Which being reported to the King, as if that prelate had aſſumed to himſelf the honour of building this caſtle, that Biſhop would probably have fallen under his Majeſty's diſpleaſure, had he not readily aſſured his royal maſter, that he meant it only as an acknowledgment, that this building had *made him great* in the favour of his Prince; and had occaſioned his being raiſed to his preſent high ſtation.

Great additions were in ſucceeding times made to the caſtle, by ſeveral of our monarchs, particularly by Edward IV. Henry VII. Henry VIII. Elizabeth and Charles II. This laſt Prince, ſoon after his reſtoration, entirely repaired the caſtle, and though it had ſuffered greatly by plunder and rapine, in the preceding times of national diſorder, he reſtored it to its ancient ſpendor. As that prince uſually kept his court there during the ſummer ſeaſon, he ſpared no expence in rendering it worthy the royal reſidence; he entirely changed the face of the upper court; he enlarged the windows, and made them regular; richly furniſhed the royal apartments, and had them decorated with large and beautiful paintings, and erected a large magazine of arms.

In ſhort, King Charles II. left little to be done to the caſtle, except ſome additional paintings in the apartments, which were added by his ſucceſſors James II. and William III. in whoſe reign the whole was completed.

This ſtately and venerable caſtle is divided into two courts or wards, with a large round tower between them called the middle ward, it being formerly ſeparated from the lower ward by a ſtrong wall and draw-bridge. The whole contains above twelve acres of land, and has many towers and batteries for its defence: but length of time has abated their ſtrength.

The caſtle is ſituated upon a high hill, which riſes by a gentle aſcent, and enjoys a moſt delightful proſpect around it:

in the front is a wide and extenſive vale, adorned with corn fields and meadows, with groves on either ſide, and the calm ſmooth water of the Thames running through it, and behind it are every where hills covered with woods, as if dedicated by nature for game and hunting.

On the declivity of the hill is a fine terrace, faced with a rampart of free ſtone, 1870 feet in length. This may juſtly be ſaid to be one of the nobleſt walks in Europe, both with reſpect to the ſtrength and grandeur of the building, and the fine and extenſive proſpect over the Thames, of the adjacent country on every ſide, where from the variety of fine villas ſcattered about, nature and art ſeem to vie with each other in beauty.

When Queen Elizabeth reſided at Windſor, ſhe uſed to walk on this terrace near an hour every day before dinner, if not prevented by windy weather, to which ſhe had a particular averſion. Wet weather was no interruption to her amuſement there; for ſhe took great delight in walking abroad when the rain was only mild and calm, with an umbrella over her head.—This noble walk is covered with fine gravel, and has cavities, with proper drains, in order to carry off the rain, ſo that let it fall never ſo heavy, none of it will lie upon the terrace; by which means it is dry, hard, and fit for walking on, as ſoon as ever the ſtorm is over.

From this terrace you enter into a beautiful park of the fineſt green or lawn, which lies round this Royal Caſtle, and is no ſmall ornament to Windſor; it is called the Little or Houſe-Park, to diſtinguiſh it from another adjoining of much larger extent; but this is computed to be four miles in circumference, and contains near 500 acres of land; it was enlarged and incloſed by a brick-wall in the reign of the late King William III. and is moſt delightful for its natural beauty, and the many ſhady walks, eſpecially that called Queen Elizabeth's walk; which, on the ſummer evenings, is chiefly frequented by the beſt company: the fine plain on the top of the hill, was made level for bowling in King Charles IId.'s time, (an exerciſe in which that Prince much delighted) and from hence is the like extended proſpect over the ſame moſt beautiful and well cultivated country, and the river Thames. The lower part of this park, under the terrace of the north ſide of the Caſtle, was deſigned and laid out for a garden in the reign of Queen Anne; but on the demiſe of that Princeſs, and in a country where the beauties of nature are more attended to than the decorations of art, this deſign was laid aſide: in this park is conſtantly a good

good ſtock of deer and other game, and the Keeper's Lodge at the farther end next the road ſide, is a delightful habitation. The preſent Keeper of this park is the Earl of Pomfret.

In the upper court of the caſtle, is a ſpacious and regular ſquare, containing on the north ſide the royal apartments, and St. George's chapel and hall; on the ſouth and the eaſt ſides are the royal apartments, thoſe of the Prince of Wales, and the great officers of ſtate; and in the centre of the area is an equeſtrian ſtatue in copper of King Charles II. in the habit of one of the Cæſars, ſtanding on a marble pedeſtal, adorned with various kinds of fruit, fiſh, ſhipping, and other ornaments.

The *Round Tower*, which forms the weſt ſide of this upper court, contains the governor's apartments. It is built on the higheſt part of the mount, and there is an aſcent to it by a large flight of ſtone ſteps; theſe apartments are ſpacious and noble, and among the reſt is a guard room or magazine of arms. King Charles II. began to face this mount with brick, but only compleated that part next the court. The preſent governor of this caſtle is the Duke of Montague. His lodgings command a moſt extenſive view to London, and, as they ſay, into twelve counties. They alſo tell you, that in the guard-chamber, are the coats of mail of John, King of France, and David, King of Scotland, both priſoners here at the ſame time. The royal ſtandard is raiſed on this tower on ſtate-holidays, or when the king or royal family reſide here. On the oppoſite corner of the royal buildings is *King John's Tower*, ſo named from its being the aparment aſſigned to that French monarch, when he was priſoner in England.

The *Royal Apartments* are on the north ſide of this princely Caſtle, and commonly go under the name of the Star Building, from the garter and ſtar largely diſplayed in gold, and fixed in the middle of the building on the outſide next the terrace.

The uſal entrance into the apartments is from the upper court or ward, through a handſome Veſtibule, ſupported by pillars of the Ionic order, with ſome antique braſs buſtos in the ſeveral niches of no great account; and alſo figures of a Roman veſtal, and a ſlave in the action of picking a thorn out of his foot. The great ſtair caſe is finely painted with ſeveral fabulous ſtories from Ovid's Metamorphoſes, particularly the ſtory of Phaeton, who is repreſented on the dome petitioning Apollo for leave to drive the chariot of the ſun; and on the ſtair-caſe, in large compartments, are the transformation of

Phaetan's ſiſters into poplars, their tears diſtilling amber from the trees, with this inſcription, *Magnis tamen excidit Auſis, great events happen to the bold:* Alſo the ſtory of Cycnus, K. of Liguria, who, being inconſolable for Phaeton's death, was transformed into a ſwan. Over theſe, and on the ſeveral parts of the cieling, ſupported by the winds, are repreſented the ſigns of the zodiac, with baſkets of flowers, beautifully diſpoſed, and at each corner are the elements of earth, air, fire, and water, expreſſed by Cornucopeas, birds, zephyrs, flaming cenſers, water nymphs with fiſhes, and a variety of other repreſentations expreſſing each element; alſo Aurora, with her nymphs in waiting, giving water to her horſes. In proper attitudes in ſeveral parts of this ſtair caſe, are alſo repreſented comedy, tragedy, muſick, painting, and other ſciences, and the whole ſtair-caſe is beautifully diſpoſed and heightened with gold, and has a view to the back ſtairs, whereon is painted the ſtory of Meleager and Atalanta. The painting of this ſtair-caſe was by Sir James Thornhill.—We now proceed to a particular deſcription of the principal apartments.

The Queen's Guard Chamber.

This room, which is the firſt apartment into which you enter, is completely furniſhed with fire-arms, as guns, bayonets, pikes, bandaleers, &c. beautifully ranged and diſpoſed into various forms, with the ſtar and garter, the royal cypher, and other ornaments intermixed, cut in lime-wood. Over the chimney, is a full portrait of prince George of Denmark in armour on horſeback, by Dahl, with a view of ſhipping, by Vandewell: on the cieling is Britannia, in the perſon of Queen Catharine of Portugal, conſort to King Charles II. ſeated on a globe, bearing the arms of England and Portugal, with the four quarters of the world, viz. Europe, Aſia, Africa, and America, and their reſpective ſymbols attended by deities, preſenting their ſeveral offerings. The ſigns of the zodiack are on the outer part of this beautiful repreſentation. In different parts of the cieling are Mars, Venus, Juno, Minerva, and other heathen deities, with zephyrs, cupids, and other embelliſhments properly diſpoſed.

The Queen's Preſence-Chamber.

On the cieling of this room Queen Catharine is repreſented attended by religion, prudence, fortitude, and other virtues: ſhe is under a curtain ſpread by time, and ſupported by zephyrs, while

while fame ſounds the happineſs of Britain; below, Juſtice is driving away envy, ſedition, and other evil genii. The room is hung with tapeſtry, containing the hiſtory of the beheading of St. Paul, and the perſecution of the primitive Chriſtians; and adorned with the pictures of Judith and Holofernes; by Guido Reni; a magdalen, by Sir Peter Lely; and a Prometheus by young Palma.

The Queen's Audience Room.

On the cieling is Britannia repreſented in the perſon of Queen Catherine, in a car drawn by ſwans to the temple of virtue, attended by Flora, Ceres, Pomona, &c. with other decorations heightened with gold. The canopy is of fine Engliſh velvet, ſet up by Queen Anne; and the tapeſtry was made at Coblentz, in Germany, and preſented to King Henry VIII. The pictures hung up in this room, are, a Magdalen by moo light, by Carracci; St. Stephen ſtoned, by Kotterman; and Judith and Holofernes, by Guido Reni.

The Ball Room.

On the cieling King Charles II. is repreſented giving freedom to Europe by the figures of Perſeus and Andromeda; on the ſhield of Perſeus is inſcribed *Perſeus Britannicus*, and over the head of Andromeda is wrote *Europa Liberata*, and Mars attended by the celeſtial deities, over the olive branch. On the coving of this chamber is the ſtory of Perſeus and Andromeda, the four ſeaſons, and the ſigns of the Zodiac, the whole heightened with gold. The tapeſtry, which was made at Bruſſels, and ſet up by King Charles II. repreſents the ſeaſons of the year; and the room is adorned with the following pictures, the Roman Charity, after Tintoret; Duns Scotus, by Spagnoletto; a Madona, by Titian; Fame by Palmegiani; the Arts and Sciences, alſo by Palmegiani; and Pan and Syrinx, by Stanick.

The Queen's Drawing Room.

On the cieling is painted the aſſembly of the Gods and Goddeſſes, the whole intermixed with cupids, flowers, &c. and heightened with gold. The room is hung with tapeſtry repreſenting the twelve months of the year, and adorned with the pictures of Lot and his daughters, after Angelo; Lady Digby

Digby, wife of Sir Kenelm Digby, by Vandyke; a ſleeping Venus, by Pouſſin; a family in the character of Mark Anthony and Cleopatra, by De Bray; a Spaniſh family, after Titian; and a flower piece by Varelſt.

The Queen's Bed-Chamber.

The bed of ſtate is rich flowered velvet made in Spitalfields, by order of Queen Anne, and the tapeſtry, which repreſents the harveſt ſeaſon, was alſo made at London, by Poyntz. The cieling is painted with the ſtory of Diana and Endymion, and the room is adorned with the pictures of the holy family, by Raphael; Herod's cruelty, by Julio Romano; and Judith and Holofernes, by Guido.

The Room of Beauties.

This is ſo named from the portraits of the moſt celebrated beauties in the reign of King Charles II. They are fourteen in number, viz. Lady Oſſory, the Ducheſs of Somerſet, the Ducheſs of Cleveland, Lady Gramont, the Counteſs of Northumberland, the Ducheſs of Richmond, Lady Birons, Mrs. Middleton, Lady Denham and her ſiſter, Lady Rocheſter, Lady Sunderland, Mrs. Dawſon, and Mrs. Knott. Theſe are all original paintings drawn to great perfection by Sir Peter Lely.

The Queen's Dreſſing Room.

In this room are the following portraits; Queen Henrietta Maria, wife to King Charles I. Queen Mary, when a child, and Queen Catherine; theſe three are all done by Vandyke; the Ducheſs of York, mother to Queen Mary and Queen Anne, by Sir Peter Lely.

In this room is a cloſet wherein are ſeveral paintings, and in particular a portrait of the Counteſs of Deſmond, who is ſaid to have lived to within a few days of one hundred and fifty years of age; alſo a portrait of Eraſmus, and other learned men. In this cloſet is likewiſe the banner of France annually delivered on the ſecond of Auguſt by the Duke of Marlborough, by which he holds Blenheim-houſe, built at Woodſtock in Oxfordſhire, in the reign of Queen Anne, as a national reward to that great General for his many glorious victories over the French.

Queen

Queen Elizabeth's, or the Picture Gallery.

This is richly adorned with the following paintings: King James I. and his Queen, whole lengths, by Vanſomer; Rome in flames, by Julio Romano; a Roman family, by Titian; the holy family, after Raphael; Judith and Holofernes, by Tintoret; a portrait of Charles VI. Emperor of Germany, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; the wiſe men making their offerings to Chriſt, by Paulo Veroneſe; two uſurers, an admired piece, by the famous blackſmith of Antwerp; Perſeus and Andromeda, by Schiavone; Aretine and Titian, by Titian; the Duke of Glouceſter, a whole length, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; Prince George of Denmark, a whole length, by Dahl; King Henry VIII. by Hans Holbein Vandenelli, an Italian ſtatuary, Correggio; the founders of different orders in the Romiſh church, by Titian and Rembrandt; a rural piece in low life, by Baſſano; a fowl piece, by Varelſt; the battle of Spurs near Terevaen, in France, in 1513, by Hans Holbein; two views of Windſor caſtle, by Woſterman, and two Italian markets, by Michael Angelo. In this room is alſo a curious amber cabinet, preſented by the King of Pruſſia to Queen Caroline.

There is here likewiſe Queen Caroline's china cloſet, filled with a great variety of curious china elegantly diſpoſed, and the whole room is finely gilt and ornamented; over the chimney are the pictures of Prince Arthur and his two ſiſters, the children of King Henry VII. by Holbein; and in this cloſet is alſo a fine amber cabinet, preſented to Queen Anne, by Dr. Robinſon, Biſhop of London, and plenipotentiary at the congreſs of Utrecht.

The King's Cloſet.

The cieling of this is adorned with the ſtory of Jupiter and Leda. Among the curioſities in this room is a large frame of needle work, ſaid to be wrought by Mary Queen of Scots, while a priſoner in Forthinghay caſtle; among other figures, ſhe herſelf is repreſented ſupplicating for juſtice before the Virgin Mary, with her ſon, afterwards King James I. ſtanding by her; in a ſcroll is worked theſe words *Sapientiam amavi et exquiſivi a juventute mea.* This piece of work, after its having lain a long time in the wardrobe, was ſet up by order of Queen Anne. The pictures are, a Magdalen, by Carracci; a ſleep-

a ſleeping Cupid, by Correggio; contemplation, by Carracci; Titian's daughter, by herſelf; and a German Lady, by Raphael.

The King's Dreſſing Room.

The cieling of this is painted with the ſtory of Jupiter and Danaë; and adorned with the pictures of the birth of Jupiter, by Julio Romano; and of a naked Venus aſleep, by Sir Peter Lely.

The King's Bed Chamber.

This is hung with tapeſtry, repreſenting the ſtory of Hero and Leander; the bed of ſtate, which was ſet up in the reign of King Charles II. is of fine blue cloth, richly embroidered with gold and ſilver; and on the cieling that Prince is repreſented in the robes of the garter, under a canopy ſupported by Time, Jupiter and Neptune, with a wreath of laurel over his head; and he is attended by Europe, Aſia, Africa, and America, paying their obeiſance to him. The paintings are, King Charles II. when a boy, in armour, by Vandyke; and St. Paul ſtoned at Lyſtra, by Paulo Veroneſe.

The King's Drawing Room.

On the cieling is King Charles II, riding in a triumphal car, drawn by the horſes of the ſun, attended by Fame, Peace, and the polite arts; Hercules is driving away rebellion, ſedition, and ignorance; Britannia and Neptune, properly attended, are paying obeiſance to the monarch as he paſſes; and the whole is a repreſentation of the reſtoration of that monarch, and the introduction of arts and ſciences in theſe kingdoms. In the other parts of the cieling are painted the labours of Hercules, with feſtoons of fruit and flowers, the whole beautifully decorated in gold and ſtone colour. The pictures hung up in this room are, a converted Chineſe, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; the Marquis of Hamilton, after Vandyke, by Hanneman; Herodias's daughter, by Carlo Dolci; a Magdalen, by Carlo Dolci; and a Venetian Lady, by Titian.

The King's Public Dining Room.

On the cieling is painted the banquet of the gods, with a variety of fiſh and fowl. The pictures hung up here are, the portraits of his preſent Majeſty, and the late Queen Caroline,

roline, whole lengths; Hercules and Omphale, Cephalus and Procris, the birth of Venus, and Venus and Adonis, the four laſt by Genario; a naval triumph of King Charles II. by Verrio; the marriage of St. Catherine, by Dawkers; nymphs and ſatyrs, by Rubens and Snyders; hunting the wild boar, by Snyders; a picture of ſtill life, by Girardo; the taking of the bears by Snyders; a night piece, being a family ſinging by candle light, by Quiſtin; a Bohemian family, by De Brie; divine love by an unknown hand; and Lacy, a famous comedian in King Charles the Second's time, in three characters, by Wright.

Many of the paintings in this room are beſt ſeen at noon by the reflection of the ſun; the carving of this chamber is very beautiful, repreſenting a great variety of fowl, fiſh and fruit, done to the utmoſt perfection on lime wood, by Mr. Gibbons, a famous ſtatuary and carver in the reign of King Charles II.

The King's Audience Chamber.

On the cieling is repreſented the eſtabliſhment of *pure religion* in theſe nations on the reſtoration of that *pious Prince*, Charles II. in the characters of England, Scotland, and Ireland, attended by Faith, Hope, Charity, and the Cardinal Virtues; Religion triumphs over Superſtition and Hypocriſy, which are driven by Cupids from before the face of the church; all which appear in proper attitudes, and the whole highly finiſhed. The paintings in this room are, Our Saviour before Pilate, by Michael Angelo; the Apoſtles at our Saviour's tomb, by Schiavoni; Peter, James, and John, by Michael Angelo; and the Dutcheſs of Richmond, by Vandyke. The canopy of this room is of green velvet, embroidered with gold, very rich, ſet up in the reign of King Charles II.

The King's Preſence Chamber.

On the cieling is Mercury, with an exceeding good original portrait of King Charles II. which he ſhews to the four quarters of the world, introduced by Neptune; Fame declaring the glory of that prince, and Time driving away Rebellion, Sedition, and their companions. Over the canopy is Juſtice in ſtone-colour, ſhewing the arms of Britain to Thames and his river nymphs, with the ſtar of Venus, and this label, *Sydus Coriolinum*; at the lower end of the chamber is Venus in a ſea car,

drawn by Tritons and ſea nymphs. This cieling is in all parts beautifully painted, and highly ornamented with gold and ſtone-colour. The painting in this room are, Henry Duke of Glouceſter, brother to King Charles II. by Vandyke; the Counteſs of Dorſet his governeſs, by ditto; Father Paul the Venetian, by Tintoret; the tapeſtry of this chamber, is the hiſtory of Queen Athaliah.

The King's Guard Chamber.

In this ſpacious and noble room is a large magazine of arms, viz. pikes, piſtols, guns, coats of mail, ſwords, halberts, bayonets, drums, &c. to the amount of ſome thouſands, all beautifully diſpoſed in colonades, pillars, circles, ſhields, and other devices in a moſt curious manner, ranged by Mr. Harris, late maſter-gunner of the caſtle, the ſame perſon who made that beautiful arrangement of the ſmall arms in the great armoury in the Tower of London, and at Hampton Court, and whom we have before ſpoken of.

The cieling is painted in water-colours: in one circle is Peace and Plenty, and in the other Mars and Minerva. In the dome, is a repreſentation of Mars, and the whole room is decorated with inſtruments of war adapted to the chamber. Over the chimney is a portrait, as large as life, of Charles XI. King of Sweden, on horſeback, by Wyck. And over the door they ſhew the armour of Edward the Black Prince.

In this room the Knights of the Garter dine in great ſtate at an Inſtallation, in the abſence of the Sovereign.

St. George's Hall.

This Hall is particularly ſet apart to the honour of the order of the Garter, and is one of the nobleſt rooms in Europe, both with regard to the building and the painting, which is here performed in the moſt grand taſte. In a large oval in the centre of the cieling King Charles II. is repreſented in the habit of the order, attended by England, Scotland, and Ireland; Religion and Plenty hold the crown of theſe kingdoms over his head; Mars and Mercury, with the emblems of war and peace ſtand on each ſide. In the ſame oval, regal government is repreſented upheld by religion and eternity, with Juſtice attended by fortitude, temperance and prudence, beating down rebellion and faction. Towards the throne is repreſented in an octagon St. George's

George's croſs incircled with the garter, within a ſtar or glory ſupported by Cupids, with the motto,

HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENCE.

and beſides other embelliſhments relating to the order, the muſes are repreſented attending in full concert.

On the back of the ſtate, or Sovereign's throne, is a large drapery, on which is painted St. George encountering the Dragon, as large as the life, and on the lower border of the drapery is inſcribed,

VENIENDO RESTITUIT REM,

in alluſion to King William III. who is painted in the habit of the order, ſitting under a royal canopy, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. To the throne is an aſcent by five ſteps of fine marble, to which the painter has added five more, which are done with ſuch perfection as to deceive the ſight, and induce the ſpectator to think them equally real.

This noble room is an hundred and eight feet in length, and the whole north ſide is taken up with the triumph of Edward the Black Prince, after the manner of the Romans. At the upper part of the hall is Edward III. that Prince's father, the conqueror of France and Scotland, and the founder of the order of the garter, ſeated on a throne, receiving the Kings of France and Scotland priſoners; the Black Prince is ſeated in the middle of the proceſſion, crowned with laurel, and carried by ſlaves; preceded by captives, and attended by the emblems of victory, liberty, and other enſignia of the Romans, with the banners of France and Scotland diſplayed. The painter has given a looſe to his fancy by cloſing the proceſſion with the fiction of the Counteſs of Saliſbury, in the perſon of a fine lady, making garlands for the Prince, and the repreſentation of the merry wives of Windſor.

At the lower end of the hall is a noble muſic gallery, ſupported by ſlaves, larger than the life, in proper attitudes, ſaid to repreſent a father and his three ſons, taken priſoners by the Black Prince in his wars abroad. Over this gallery on the lower compartment of the cieling is the collar of the order of the garter fully diſplayed. The painting of this room was done by Verrio, and is highly finiſhed and heightened with gold.

The King's Chapel.

This chapel is decorated in a very gay and ſplendid manner. On the cieling is finely repreſented our Lord's aſcenſion; and

the altar piece is adorned with a noble painting of the laſt ſupper. The north ſide of the chapel is ornamented with the repreſentation of our Saviour's raiſing Lazarus from the dead, his curing the ſick of the palſy, and other miracles, beautifully painted by Verrio; and in a group of ſpectators the painter has introduced his own effigy, with thoſe of Sir Godfrey Kneller, and Mr. Cooper, who aſſiſted him in theſe paintings. The eaſt end of this chapel is taken up with the cloſets belonging to his Majeſty and the Royal family. The canopy, curtains, and furniture are of crimſon velvet, fringed with gold; and the carved work of this chapel, which is well worthy the attention of the curious, is done by that famous artiſt Gibbons, in lime tree, repreſenting a great variety of pelicans, doves, palms, and other alluſions to ſcripture hiſtory, with the ſtar and garter, and other ornaments finiſhed to great perfection.

St. George's Chapel.

This ancient ſtructure, which is ſituated in the middle of the lower court, is in the pureſt ſtile of Gothic architecture, and was firſt erected by King Edward the Third, in the year 1337, ſoon after the foundation of the college, for the honour of the order of the garter, and dedicated to St. George, the patron of England; but however noble the firſt deſign might be, King Edward IV. not finding it entirely compleated, enlarged the ſtructure and deſigned the preſent building, together with the houſes of the dean and canons, ſituated on the north and weſt ſides of the chapel; the work was afterwards carried on by Henry VII. who finiſhed the body of the chapel, and Sir Reginald Bray, knight of the garter, and the favourite of that King, aſſiſted in ornamenting the chapel and compleating the roof.

The architecture of the inſide has always been eſteemed for its neatneſs and great beauty, and in particular the ſtone roof is reckoned an excellent piece of workmanſhip. It is an ellipſis ſupported by Gothic pillars, whoſe ribs and groins ſuſtain the whole ceiling, every part of which has ſome different device well finiſhed, as the arms of Edward the Confeſſor, Edward III. Henry VI. Edward IV. Henry VII. and Henry VIII. alſo the arms of England and France quarterly, the croſs of St. George, the roſe, portcullis, lion rampant, unicorn, &c. In a chapel in the ſouth iſle is repreſented in ancient painting, the hiſtory of John the Baptiſt, and in the ſame iſle are painted on large pannels of oak, neatly carved and

and decorated with the ſeveral devices peculiar to each Prince, the portraits at full length of Prince Edward, ſon to Henry VI. Edward IV. Edward V. and Henry VII. In the north iſle is a chapel dedicated to St. Stephen, wherein the hiſtory of that ſaint is painted on the pannels, and well preſerved. In the firſt of theſe pannels St. Stephen is repreſented preaching to the people; in the ſecond he is before Herod's tribunal; in the third he is ſtoning; and the fourth he is repreſented dead. At the eaſt end of this iſle is the chapter houſe of the college, in which is a portrait at full length, by a maſterly hand, of the victorious Edward III. in his robes of ſtate, holding in his right hand a ſword, and bearing the crowns of France and Scotland, in token of the many victories he gained over thoſe nations. On one ſide of this painting is kept the ſword of that great and warlike Prince.

But what appears moſt worthy of notice is the choir. On each ſide are the ſtalls of the Sovereign and Knights companions of the moſt noble order of the garter, with the helmet, mantling, creſt, and ſword, of each Knight, ſet up over his ſtall on a canopy of ancient carving curiouſly wrought, and over the canopy is affixed the banner or arms of each Knight properly blazoned on ſilk, and on the back of the ſtalls are the titles of the Knights, with their arms neatly engraved and blazoned on copper. The Sovereign's ſtall is on the right hand of the entrance into the choir, and is covered with purple velvet and cloth of gold, and has a canopy and compleat furniture of the ſame valuable materials; his banner is likewiſe of velvet, and his mantling of cloth of gold. The Prince's ſtall is on the left, and has no diſtinction from thoſe of the reſt of the Knights companions, the whole ſociety, according to the ſtatutes of the inſtitution, being companions and collegues, equal in honour and power.

The altar piece was, ſoon after the reſtoration, adorned with cloth of gold and purple damaſk by King Charles II. but on removing the wainſcot of one of the chapels in 1707, a fine painting of the Lord's ſupper was found, which being approved of by Sir James Thornhill, Verrio, and other eminent maſters, was repaired and placed on the altar piece.

Near the altar is the Queen's gallery, for the accommodation of the ladies at an inſtallation.

In a vault under the marble pavement of this choir, are interred the bodies of Henry VIII. and Jane Seymour his Queen, King Charles I. and a daughter of the late Queen

Anne. In the ſouth iſle, near the door of the choir, is buried Henry VI. and the arch near which he was interred, was ſumptuouſly decorated by Henry VIII. with the royal enſigns and other devices, but they are now much defaced by time.

In this chapel is alſo the monument of Edward Earl of Lincoln, Lord High Admiral of England in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, erected by his Lady, who is alſo interred with him. The monument is of alabaſter, with pillars of porphyry.

Another, within a neat ſcreen of braſs work, is erected to the memory of Charles Somerſet, Earl of Worceſter, and Knight of the garter, who died in 1526, and his lady, daughter to William Earl of Huntingdon.

Alſo a ſtately monument of white marble erected to the memory of Henry Somerſet, Duke of Beaufort, and Knight of the garter, who died in 1699. There are here alſo the tombs of Sir George Manners, Lord Roos; that of the Lord Haſtings, Chamberlain to Edward IV. and ſeveral others.

The Tomb-Houſe.

This edifice, which is adjoining to the eaſt end of St. George's Chapel, was erected by King Henry VII. for a burial place for himſelf and thoſe who ſhould ſucceed him on the Throne of England: but this Prince afterwards altering his purpoſe, began the more noble edifice at Weſtminſter; and this fabric remained neglected till Cardinal Wolſey obtained a grant of it from Henry VIII. and then deſigned and began here a moſt ſumptuous monument for himſelf, from whence this building obtained the name of *Wolſey's Tomb-houſe*; and ſome have erroneouſly ſuppoſed, that at firſt the whole building was erected by that famous Cardinal. Lord Bacon obſerves, that this monument "far exceeded that of King Henry VII. in Weſtminſter-Abbey;" and at the time of the Cardinal's diſgrace, and his loſs of the King's favour, the deſign had been ſo far executed, that four thouſand two hundred and fifty ducats had been paid to the ſtatuary for executing that part of the work which was then done. But the Cardinal dying ſoon after his retirement from court, was privately buried in the chapel of Leiceſter Abbey, and this monument remained unfiniſhed; and at laſt, in 1646, became the plunder of the parliamentarian ſoldiers. King James II. afterwards converted this building into a Popiſh chapel,



A View of the Cascade and Grotto in Windsor Park



A View of the Lodge in Windsor Great Park.

chapel, and maſs was publickly performed here; ſince which it has been entirely neglected, and ſuffered to run to ruin.

We ſhall now proceed to ſpeak of *Windſor Great Park*, which lays on the ſouth ſide of the town, and opens by a moſt noble road, or *Long-Walk*, in a direct line, to the top of a delightful hill at the diſtance of near three miles. This road, through a double plantation of trees on each ſide, leads to the Ranger or Keeper's Lodge, the reſidence of his Royal Highneſs the late Duke of Cumberland, who greatly improved the natural beauties of this park, and by large plantations of trees, extenſive lawns, new roads, ſpacious canals, and rivers of water, made this villa a moſt delightful habitation. This park is fourteen miles in circumference, and is well ſtocked with deer, and variety of other game. The late Duke was ſucceeded both in the rangerſhip of this park, as alſo in title by his royal nephew, the preſent Duke of Cumberland.

The late erected building, or *Belvidere*, on Shrub's Hill, over a beautiful verdure and young plantation of trees, is very elegant, and affords the moſt delightful rural ſcene; the noble piece of water in the valley underneath, was effected at a large expence, and from a ſmall ſtream or current of water, was made a ſpacious river, capable to carry barges and boats of pleaſure, with freedom; his Royal Highneſs alſo erected over this river, a bridge of a moſt curious architecture, on a noble and bold plan, being a ſingle arch, one hundred and ſixty-five feet wide; this piece of water was a great ornament to the park, and terminates in a grotto, and large caſcade or fall of water; but has of late ſuffered damage by the breaking up of the head bank.

Neither was the attention of his Highneſs confined to the park only, but extended in like manner to the adjoining Foreſt, that ſcene of rural diverſion, and place of reſidence of the royal game. Among the improvements made here by that Prince, the new two miles courſe on Aſcot Heath cannot be paſſed unnoticed: This race ground was laid out and brought into the moſt beautiful order at a large expence, and is one of the firſt courſes in the kingdom. The foreſt is of great extent, and was appropriated to hunting, and the habitation of the King's deer, by William I. who eſtabliſhed many laws and regulations which are at this time obſerved for the preſervation of the royal game, and better regulation of the foreſt. In this extenſive tract of land are ſeveral agreeable towns and villages,

of which Wokingham is the principal, and almoſt in the center of the foreſt; and although the land is generally barren and uncultivated, it affords great delight and pleaſure in riding, by beautiful hills and vales intermixed with fine lawns and herbage for cattle, alſo by the many agreeable habitations of gentlemen, whoſe

Pleaſant Villas *intervene,*
To grace the ſweetly varied ſcene.

And, if we conſider the noble exerciſe of the chace which this foreſt admits of the large verdures and ſhady plantations of oak, beech, and other trees, that ſo frequently abound in this delightful ſpot, it muſt be confeſſed that this park and foreſt are peculiarly adapted by nature to rural pleaſure and delight; and that no juſt idea can be formed of the many beauties that here, on every ſide, offer to our ſight, by the beſt deſcription in proſe; our great Engliſh poet, Mr. Pope, only can truly paint out theſe ſylvan ſcenes and delightful habitations; whoſe Muſe, (whilſt himſelf reſided in this Foreſt) produced one of the fineſt poems in our language, on this ſubject, and which he thus elegantly introduces,

The groves of Eden, *vaniſh'd now ſo long,*
Live in deſcription, and look green in ſong:
Theſe, was my breaſt inſpir'd with equal flame,
Like them in beauty, ſhould be like in fame.
Here hills and vales, the woodland and the plain,
Here earth and water ſeem to meet again.
Not Chaos *like, together cruſh'd and bruis'd,*
But, as the world, harmoniouſly confus'd:
Where order in variety we ſee,
And where, tho' all things differ, all agree.
Here waving groves a chequer'd ſcene diſplay,
And part admit, and part exclude the day;—
There, interſpers'd in lawns and op'ning glades
Thin trees ariſe, that ſhun each other's ſhades.
Here in full light the ruſſet plains extend;
There wrapt in clouds the blueiſh hills aſcend
Ev'n the wild heath diſplays her purple dyes,
And mid'ſt the deſart, fruitful fields ariſe,
That crown'd with tufted trees and ſpringing corn,
Like verdant iſles the ſable waſte adorn.——
Not proud Olympus *yields a nobler ſight,*
Tho' Gods aſſembled grace his tow'ring height,

Than what more humble mountains offer here,
Where, in their bleſſings, all thoſe Gods appear.

Cranbourne Lodge in this neighbourhood, belonged alſo to his late Royal Highneſs, as Ranger of the Foreſt. This lodge is moſt pleaſantly ſituated, and has an extenſive proſpect over a fine plain and country, forming a moſt beautiful landſcape. In a ſpacious chamber of the houſe are painted and regularly ranged in large pannels, the military dreſſes of the different corps in the armies of Europe. The Duke of Glouceſter is the preſent Ranger of the foreſt, and great improvements have been made to this lodge by his Highneſs. Oppoſite to the front of this lodge on the neighbouring plain, in the pariſh of *Wingfield*, is a handſome building erected and endowed by the late Earl of Ranelagh, ſome time Ranger of this foreſt, for the education of twenty boys and girls: on this pleaſing ſpot or part of the foreſt are the villas of the late Mr. Buckley, Lady Beauclerk, Mr. Mitford, and other gentlemen; and at a ſmall diſtance *Fern-Hill* offers to the ſight on a delightful eminence.

St. *Leonard's Hill* is adjoining to the Duke's lodge, and requires due notice, on account of the pleaſing ſeat of Lillye Aynſcombe, Eſq; and the large plantation of oak and beech, which here form the moſt agreeable variety or face of nature. On the ſummit of the hill the Counteſs of Waldegrave has lately erected a noble edifice, which commands a moſt extenſive and delightful proſpect over the river Thames, and a moſt beautiful fruitful country.

Sunning Hill which is at a ſmall diſtance, is a very delightful part of the foreſt, and many gentlemen of fortune have here pleaſing villas or lodgings for the ſummer ſeaſon, to drink the mineral waters, which in many caſes are deemed beneficial to health. The wells are deſigned with ſome taſte, and are neatly laid out: the aſſembly-houſe is handſome and ſpacious, with pleaſant gardens. Public breakfaſtings are here every Monday morning, and frequent aſſemblies of gentlemen and ladies are held for the benefit of agreeable converſation, and to partake of the pleaſing amuſements of the country.

Swinley Lodge, which is not far from Sunning Hill, belongs to the maſter of the buck-hounds. Here is always a number of deer, under his care and direction, kept for the royal chaſe. He appoints the days of hunting, takes care of the foreſt deer, and the King's ſtag and buck-hounds; and

for this purpoſe has many inferior officers under him, who ſuperintend the ſeveral parts of the foreſt, divided into different walks or appointments.—Many other villages alſo partake of the pleaſures of the foreſt, and ſurround this royal caſtle, as Ingfield-green, Old-Windſor, Datchet, &c. where gentlemen of fortune have their country ſeats. In the neighbourhood of Ingfield-green, and on the decline of the plain, is Cooper's-Hill, long ſince celebrated by Sir John Denham.

Old Windſor was formerly a place of note, and the reſidence of ſeveral of our Saxon monarchs before the time of William I. who fixed upon the adjacent hill for his reſidence; and by this means, together with the Caſtle, in a ſhort time was raiſed a new town, while this once royal reſidence went to decay, and retained little more than the honour of its antiquity, and giving name to the whole country around,

The Hon. Mr. Bateman, Lord Mulgrave, Lady Primroſe, and Colonel Montague, have here their reſidence in the ſummer-ſeaſon: the houſes of the three firſt are moſt agreeably ſituated on the banks of the Thames, and have large walks and gardens. The ſeat of Colonel Montague, called Beaumont lodge, is on the hill, and commands a moſt extenſive and delightful proſpect of the river and country; the gardens are large and extend to Ingfield Green, that lies behind. Mr. Bateman's Houſe is a cabinet, or uncommon collection, of curioſities, chiefly antiques; by ſome approved, by others held too minute and inconſiderable. But upon the whole, this houſe and gardens are a moſt agreeable villa; and the plantations, or yew tree's ſhade, round the Church, add to the pleaſing ſcene, and together, form the moſt inchanting rural ſpot.

Datchet, alſo a pleaſant village, lies higher up the river, and has the conveniency of a bridge built by Queen Anne, with an entrance into Windſor little park. The courſe of the river, and the road round the park wall is moſt agreeable, eſpecially on ſummer evenings. This village has of late been much improved, and is inhabited by many gentlemen of fortune, on account of its pleaſant ſituation and vicinity to Windſor.

E T O N.

Though Eton is in a different county, namely, Buckinghamſhire, yet it may be ſaid to be one and the ſame town with Windſor, by the ready communication of a bridge over the



Eton College.

the river. It is pleaſantly ſituated on the banks of the Thames, in a delightful valley, and is in a remarkable healthy ſoil. It has long been celebrated for the College here, which has produced a great number of eminent and learned men. *Eton College* was founded by Henry VI. for the ſupport of a provoſt and ſeven fellows, one of whom is vice-provoſt, and for the education of ſeventy King's ſcholars, as thoſe are called, who are on the foundation. Theſe when properly qualified, are elected, on the firſt Tueſday in Auguſt, to King's College, Cambridge, but they are not removed, till there are vacancies in the College, and then they are called according to ſeniority; and after they have been three years at Cambridge, they claim a fellowſhip. Beſides thoſe on the foundation, there are ſeldom leſs than three hundred ſcholars, at this time there are many more, who board at the maſters houſes, or within the bounds of the College. The ſchool is divided into upper and lower, and each of theſe into three claſſes. To each ſchool there is a maſter and four aſſiſtants or uſhers. The revenue of the College is about 5000l. a year. Here is a noble library enriched by a fine collection of books left by Dr. Waddington, Biſhop of Cheſter, valued at 2000l. and Lord Chief Juſtice Reeves preſented to this library the collection left him by Richard Topham, Eſq; keeper of the records in the Tower. In the great court is a fine ſtatue of the founder, erected at the expence of the late provoſt Dr. Goldolphin, Dean of St. Paul's. The chapel is in a good ſtyle of Gothic architecture. The ſchools and other parts, which are in the other ſtyle of building, are equally well, and ſeem like the deſign of Inigo Jones.

DITTON PARK.

The ancient and venerable manſion ſo called, which is ſituated in the pariſh of Datchet, was built by Sir Ralph Winwood, ſecretary of ſtate to King James I. It came afterwards into the family of Montagu, and on the death of the late Duke, this houſe and manor of Datchet came to the Dutcheſs of Mancheſter, eldeſt daughter and joint heireſs to that noble family. The houſe is built in the form of a caſtle, ſurrounded by a large moat of water, and in the middle of a pleaſant park, well planted with timber; the apartments are large, and beautifully painted, and in the picture gallery is a good collection of paintings, many of them by the firſt maſters. Lord Beaulieu married the Dutcheſs of Mancheſter, and has much improved the houſe and gardens.

There are alſo ſeveral other fine ſeats in this neighbourhood; particularly LANGLEY PARK, the ſeat of the Duke of Marlborough. The houſe is a noble edifice built by the late Duke, all of ſtone, has commodious offices, and is moſt agreeably deſigned, ſituated in a large park, with ſhady walks, and has a beautiful lawn and canal: the banqueting-houſe on the riſing ground of the park, adds to the proſpect from the terrace of Windſor Caſtle.

At a ſmall diſtance is *Percy Lodge*, the ſeat of the Earl of Tankerville. This was the reſidence of the late Dutcheſs of Somerſet, after the deceaſe of the Duke. The gardens and park are large, and beautifully deſigned.

Langley-Green, *Wexham*, and *Stoke-Green* are in this neighbourhood. In the firſt mentioned green, Lord Granard has lately built a commodious and elegant ſeat; and in theſe villages are many agreeable houſes of gentlemen of fortune, who conſtantly reſide here: in the laſt mentioned green General Howard has a moſt pleaſant ſeat and gardens.

Stoke-Houſe lately belonged to the Lady Cobham, but on her deceaſe was purchaſed by Mr. Penn, one of the proprietors and governors of Pennſylvania. It is an ancient and noble edifice, with a large and pleaſant park; and adjoining to the houſe is the pariſh church of Stoke, and a neat hoſpital, built and endowed by a Counteſs of Huntingdon, for the ſupport and maintenance of twelve old and indigent perſons of both ſexes. The ſcite of this ancient hoſpital has of late been removed, and a new one built in an adjoining convenient part of the neighbourhood, by Mr. Penn.—*Baileys*, not far from hence, is an agreeable ſeat belonging to the Earl of Godolphin.

Farnham aud *Eaſt-Burnham* are pleaſant villages, and have many agreeable houſes and villas, particularly the elegant houſe and gardens of Mr. Charles Eyre. Near Burnham is *Hitcham-Houſe*, ſituated in a valley, which was formerly the country reſidence of that learned phyſician, Dr. Friend, to whoſe family it at preſent belongs, but is now in the poſſeſſion of Lady Windſor. The gardens are large, and well deſigned; and in the hall is an original painting of the late Queen Caroline, which that Princeſs preſented to Dr. Friend.

The village of *Taploe*, which is not far diſtant, is of ſo pleaſant a ſituation, that it has cauſed many gentlemen of fortune of late to reſide here, who have built very agreeable houſes. The manor-honſe on the ſummit of the hill is an antient



A View of Cliefden House in Buckinghamshire.



A View of Cliefden House from Maidenhead Bridge.

antient and noble building, and enjoys a moſt beautiful proſpect over the country, and the river Thames, which runs underneath. This houſe belongs to the Earl of Inchiquin, who reſided here during the life of the late Prince of Wales; but on his highneſs's death, his lordſhip removed to Cliefden Houſe, in the neighbourhood.

CLIEFDEN-HOUSE.

This ſeat, which is in Buckinghamſhire, five miles north-weſt of Windſor, is remarkable, both on account of its moſt beautiful ſituation, and alſo becauſe it was the ordinary reſidence of the late Prince of Wales, father to the preſent King. The houſe was built by George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, in the reign of King Charles II. and came by marriage of the heireſs of that family to the late Earl of Orkney, who greatly improved both the houſe and gardens, which were alſo farther extended and enlarged by the late Prince of Wales, and made moſt delightful, inſomuch that in every part, or wherever the eye is turned, nothing offers to the ſight but the moſt agreeable avenues, parterres, and fine lawns, and theſe heightened by an extenſive view of the river Thames, and a moſt beautiful and well cultivated country: the houſe is a ſtately regular edifice, and the rooms ſpacious and noble: in the grand chamber the tapeſtry hangings repreſent the battles of the late Duke of Marlborough, wrought to great perfection, by order of the late Earl of Orkney, who was himſelf an officer of ſuperior rank in thoſe glorious campaigns; on the front of the houſe is raiſed a moſt noble terrace or walk, which is ſaid to be higher than the terrace of Windſor Caſtle; it is certain, the proſpect here is equally extenſive and beautiful.

DAWNEY COURT is the ſeat of Sir Charles Palmer, Bart. of the family of Roger Palmer, Earl of Caſtlemain, who was ſent by King James II. on the coſtly embaſſy to Rome in the year 1687; and the magnificent ſtate-coach, made uſe of by that nobleman on that ignominious occaſion, was many years kept here.

UNDERCOMBE is the agreeable ſeat of Thomas Eyre, Eſq; and here are alſo the ruins of the antient nunnery of Burnham. It was of the order of St. Auſtin, and conſiſted of an abbeſs, and ſeven or eight nuns. It was founded by Richard, King of the Romans, in the year 1165, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

COLE-

COLEBROOK, or COLNBROOK.

This town, part of which is in Buckinghamſhire, and part in Middleſex, is eighteen miles from London. It ſtands on four channels of the river Coln, over each of which it has a bridge. The principal ſupport of the place are the inns, on account of its being in the Bath road. The market is on Wedneſdays, and a fair is held here the third week in April. Here is a charity-ſchool, and an ancient chapel, ſaid to have been founded by King Edward III.

U X B R I D G E.

This is a town in Middleſex, in the road to Oxford, eighteen miles and an half from London. Though it is entirely independent, and is governed by two bailiffs, two conſtables, and four headboroughs, it is only a hamlet to Great Hillingdon. The river Coln runs through it in two ſtreams, full of trout, eels, and other fiſh, and over the main ſtream is a ſtone bridge that leads into Buckinghamſhire. The church, or rather chapel, was built in the reign of Henry VI. This town has many good inns, and is particularly diſtinguiſhed by the whiteneſs of the bread, particularly their rolls. There are many corn mills at a ſmall diſtance, and a conſiderable number of waggon loads of meal are carried from thence every week to London. Uxbridge gives the title of Earl to the noble family of Paget.

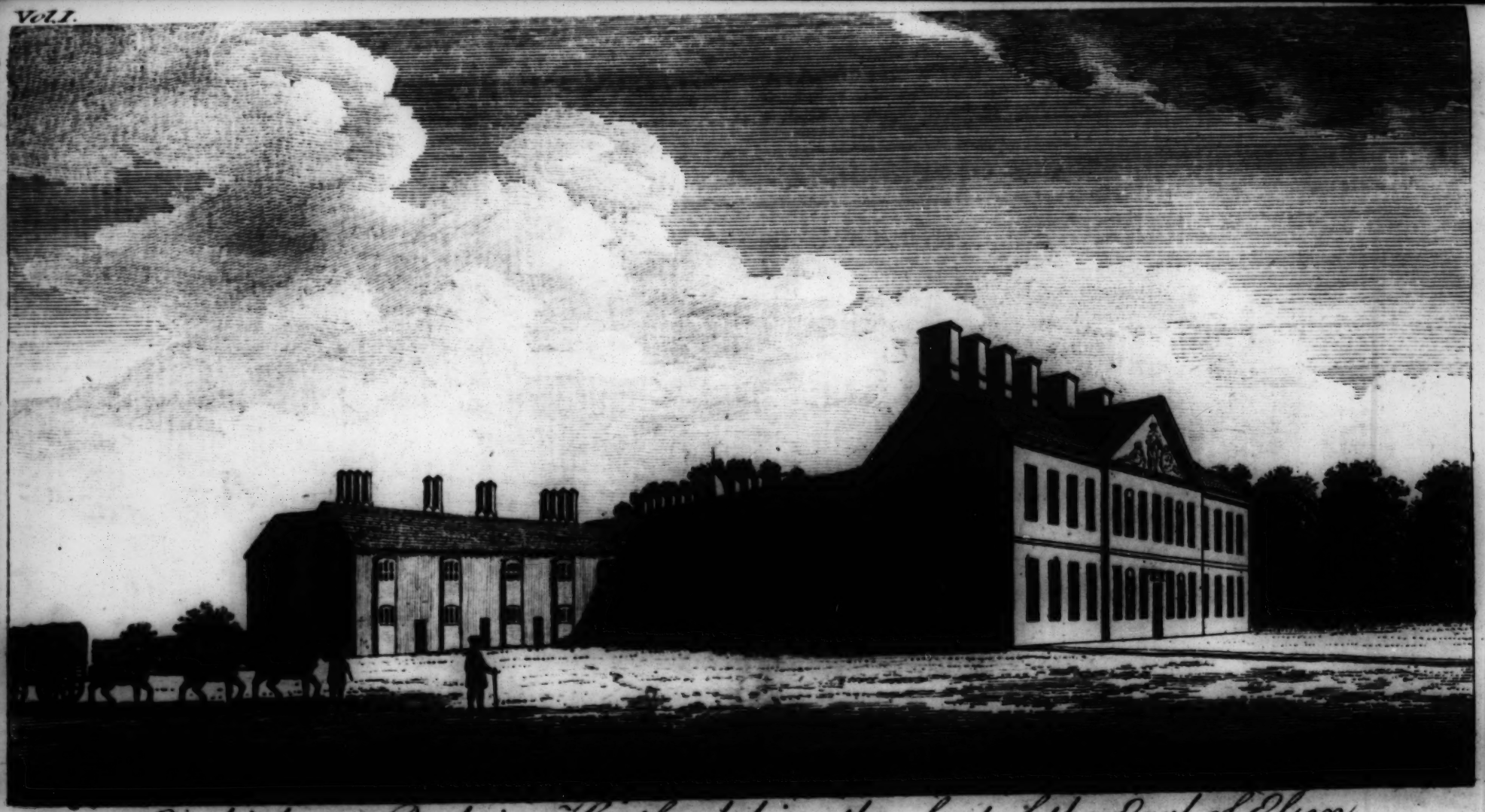
At the village of *Hillingdon*, which is a mile from Uxbridge, is a church wherein lies buried John Lord Strange, who married Jaquetta, ſiſter to Elizabeth, Queen of England, wife of King Edward I.

R I C K M A N S W O R T H.

This is a town in Hertfordſhire, at the diſtance of nineteen miles from London. It is ſituated in a low mooriſh ſoil on the borders of Buckinghamſhire, near the river Coln. It has a market on Saturday, and is governed by a conſtable and two headboroughs. The ſeveral mills on the ſtreams near this town cauſe a great quantity of wheat to be brought to it. Here is a charity ſchool for twenty boys and ten girls, with an almshouſe for five widows, and another for four. In the neighbourhood is a warren hill, where the ſound of a trumpet is repeated twelve times by the echo.



Moor Park, near Rickmansworth in Hertford Shire, the Seat of the late Lord Anson.



Cashiobury Park in Hertfordshire, the Seat of the Earl of Essex.

MOOR PARK.

Near Rickmanſworth, on the left, is MOOR PARK, which was the ſeat of Lord Anſon, but at preſent belongs to Sir Lawrence Dundas, Bart. The park is not large, but is very beautiful, whether we conſider it within itſelf or with regard to the fine and extenſive proſpects from it. The houſe was originally built by Cardinal Wolſey, and, paſſing through many hands, was afterwards in poſſeſſion of the Duke of Monmouth. Then it came into the hands of Mr. Stiles, who enlarged, repaired, and beautified it, under the direction of Sir James Thornhill. It ſtands on a hill, not quite on the ſummit. It is of ſtone of the Corinthian order; and, if not in the higheſt ſtile of architecture, is yet very noble. The ſouth, or principal front, has a portico and pediment of four columns. The offices are joined to the houſe by a beautiful circular colonade of the Ionic order, which terminates very elegantly with domes on each ſide their entrance.

WATFORD.

This is a market-town in Hertfordſhire, ſixteen miles from London. It is ſituated upon the river Coln, where is has two ſtreams that run ſeparately to Rickmanſworth. The town is very long, but conſiſts of only one ſtreet, which is extremely dirty in winter, and the waters of the river at the entrance of the town, were frequently ſo much ſwelled by floods as to be impaſſable; but in the year 1750, the road at the entrance of Watford was raiſed by a voluntary contribution; by which means the river is now confined within its proper bounds. In the church are ſeveral handſome monuments; there are alſo a free-ſchool and ſeveral alms-houſes belonging to the town.

CASHIOBURY PARK.

This is a little beyond Watford, on the left, and is ſaid to have been the ſeat of the Kings of Mercia, during the Heptarchy, till Offa gave it to the monaſtery of St. Alban's. Henry VIII. beſtowed it on Richard Moriſon, Eſq; from whom it paſſed to Arthur Lord Capel, Baron of Hadham, and from him came by inheritance to be the manor of the Earls of Eſſex, who have here a noble ſeat in the form of an H, with a large park adorned with fine woods and walks; the gardens were

planted and laid out by Le Notre in the reign of King Charles II. The front and one ſide are of brick and modern, the other ſide is very old.

SAINT ALBAN's.

This is a large and very ancient town in Hertfordſhire, twenty-one miles from London, and was ſo called from St. Alban, who ſuffered in the perſecution under Diocleſian, and being afterwards canonized, and interred on a hill in the neighbourhood of this town, a monaſtery was erected and dedicated to him by King Offa. King Edward I. erected a magnificent croſs here in memory of Queen Eleanor; and King Edward VI. incorporated this town by a charter, granting the inhabitants a mayor, a ſteward, a chamberlain, and ten burgeſſes; but the mayor and ſteward are here the only Juſtices of Peace. Here are three churches, beſides the ancient cathedral called St. Alban's belonging to the monaſtery, which is now a pariſh church.

In this ancient edifice is a funeral monument and effigies of King Offa, its founder, who is repreſented ſeated on his throne; and underneath is the following inſcription:

Fundator Eccleſiæ circa annum 793.
Quem male depictum, et reſidentem cernitis alte
Sublimem ſolio, MERCIUS OFFA fuit.

That is,

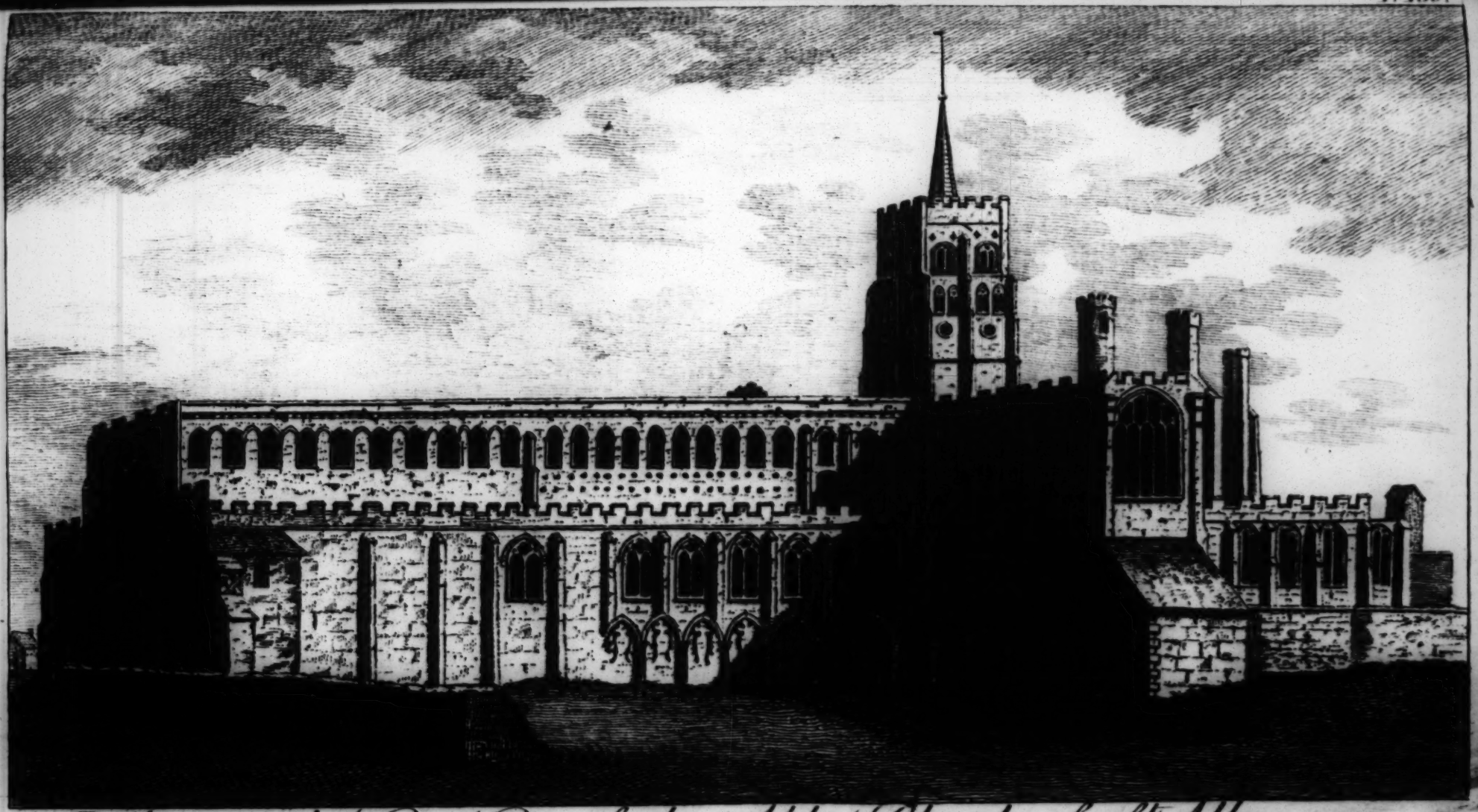
The founder of the church, about the year 793.
Whom you behold ill-painted on his throne
Sublime, was once for MERCIAN OFFA *known.*

on the eaſt ſide ſtood the ſhrine of St. Alban, where the following ſhort inſcription is ſtill to be ſeen;

S. ALBANUS VEROLAMENSIS, ANGLORUM PROTOMARTYR, 17 Junii 293.

In the ſouth iſle near the above ſhrine is the monument of Humphry, brother to King Henry V. commonly diſtinguiſhed by the title of the good Duke of Glouceſter. It is adorned with a ducal coronet, and the arms of France and England quartered. In niches on one ſide are ſeventeen Kings; but in the niches on the other ſide there are no ſtatues remaining. The inſcription, which alludes to the pretended miraculous cure of a blind man detected by the Duke, is as follows:

Piæ



The South West View of the Abby Church of St Albans

Piæ Memoriæ V. Opt. Sacrum.
Hicjacet HUMPHREDUS, Dux ille Gloceſtrius olim,
HENRICI Sexti protector, fraudis ineptæ
Detector, dum ficta notat miracula cœci.
Lumen erat patriæ, columen venerabile regni,
Pacis amans, Muſiſque favens melioribus; unde
Gratum opus Oxonio, quæ nunc ſchola ſacra reſulget.
Invida ſed mulier regno, regi, ſibi nequam,
Abſtulit hunc, humili vix hoc dignata ſepulcro.
Invidia rumpente tamen, poſt funera vivit.

Which has been thus tranſlated:

Sacred to the memory of the beſt of men.
Interr'd within this conſecrated ground,
Lies he, whom HENRY his protector found:
Good HUMPHRY, Gloc'ſter's Duke, who well could ſpy
Fraud couch'd within the blind impoſtor's eye.
His country's light, the ſtate's rever'd ſupport,
Who peace and riſing learning deign'd to court;
Whence his rich library at Oxford plac'd,
Her ample ſchools with ſacred influence grac'd:
Yet fell beneath an envious woman's wile,
Both to herſelf, her King, and country vile;
Who ſcarce allowed his bones this piece of land;
Yet ſpite of envy ſhall his glory ſtand.

About fifty years ago in digging a grave, a pair of ſtairs were diſcovered that led down into a vault where a leaden coffin was found, in which his body was preſerved entire, by a kind of pickle in which it lay, only the fleſh was waſted from the legs, the pickle at that end being dried up. Many curious medals and coins are to be ſeen in the church, that have been dug out of the ruins of Old Verulam that ſtood on the other ſide of the river Ver, or Moore, which runs ſouth weſt of the town.

In the chancel of St. Michael's church in this town, there is a neat monument of white marble, erected to the memory of the famous Lord BACON, by Sir Thomas Meautys, who was his Lordſhip's ſecretary. This nobleman, though he had ſome conſiderable failings as a man, and as a ſtateſman, poſſeſſed one of the moſt comprehenſive underſtandings, and was one of the greateſt philoſophers, that have appeared in this, or in any other country. On his monument his Lordſhip is re-

preſented ſitting in a chair, in a contemplative and his uſual poſture, one hand ſupporting his head, the other hanging over the arm of the chair, and underneath the following inſcription:

FRANCISCUS BACON,
Baro de Verulam, Sancti Albani Vicecomes;
Seu notioribus titulis,
Scientiarium Lumen, Facundiæ Lex,
Sic ſedebat.

Qui poſtquam omnia naturalis ſapientiæ,
Et civilis arcana evolviſſet,
Naturæ Decretum Explevit,
Compoſita Solvantur;
Anno Domini, M.DC.XXVI.
Ætatis LXVI.

Tanti Viri
Mem.
THOMAS MEAUTYS,
Superſtitis Cultor,
Defuncti Admirator,
H. P.

Which may be thus tranſlated:

FRANCIS BACON,
Baron of Verulam, Viſcount St. Alban's;
Or by more conſpicuous titles,
Of Lciences the Light, of Eloquence the Law,
Sat thus.

Who after all natural wiſdom,
And ſecrets of civil life he had unfolded,
Nature's law fulfilled,
Let Compounds be diſſolved,
In the year of our Lord, M.DC.XXVI.
Of his age, LXVI.

To the Memory of ſo Great a Man,
THOMAS MEAUTYS,
Living his Attendant,
Dead his Admirer,
Hath placed this Monument.

The

The town of St. Alban's is built in an irregular manner; but the ſituation is pleaſant and healthy, and there are many good inns in the place for the accommodation of travellers, it being on the great north road to Coventry, Birmingham, Cheſter, Nottingham, Derby, &c. There was beſides the abbey, a ſmall nunnery in this town, with ſeveral chapels and chantries; but they are all entirely demoliſhed. The late Dutcheſs of Marlborough built a fine houſe in the neighbourhood of this town, which now belongs to her great grandſon, Earl Spencer. She likewiſe built ſome good alms-houſes, and a charity ſchool for children.

This town is a particular diſtrict of itſelf, and its juriſdiction extends over ſeveral towns and pariſhes, even as far as Barnet. It has ſent members to parliament from the earlieſt times, and is governed by a mayor, high-ſteward, recorder, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four aſſiſtants. The weekly market is on Saturday, and here are three fairs annually, viz. on the 25th of March, on the 17th of June, and on the 29th of September.

GORHAMBURY, a little to the weſt of St. Alban's, was formerly the paternal eſtate of the great Lord Bacon, concerning whom we have lately ſpoken, and is now the ſeat of the Lord Viſcount Grimſton.

HATFIELD

Is a town in Hertfordſhire, nineteen miles from London, and was formerly called Biſhop's Hatfield, from its belonging to the biſhops of Ely. Here was once a royal palace, from whence both Edward VI. and Queen Elizabeth were conducted to the throne. It is a place of great antiquity; for it appears from our hiſtorians, that an eccleſiaſtical ſynod was held here in the year 681. The church is a venerable Gothic ſtructure, built in the form of a croſs; and at the end of the chancel is an antient chapel. On the weſt end is a tower, and in it a ring of five large bells. There are many curious monuments in this church, and the living is reckoned one of the richeſt in England.

The town does not contain any remarkable buildings, nor is it very populous; but here are two charity-ſchools, well endowed. Here is a weekly market on Thurſday, and two annual fairs, one on the 23d of April, and another on the 18th of October.

The Earl of Salisbury has here a noble seat built by the great Lord Burleigh, called HATFIELD-HOUSE. The park and gardens, in which is a vineyard, is watered by the river Lea.

B A R N E T.

This town, which is eleven miles from London, is sometimes called *High Barnet*, from its situation on a hill; and was also formerly called Chipping, or Cheaping-Barnet, from King Henry the Second's granting the monks of St. Alban's the privilege of holding a market here, the word *Cheap*, or *Chepe*, being an ancient word for a market. It is at present a great thoroughfare, being situated in the road to St. Alban's, and the first stage on the great north road. It has several good inns, with a great number of public houses; and many considerable farmers live in the neighbourhood.

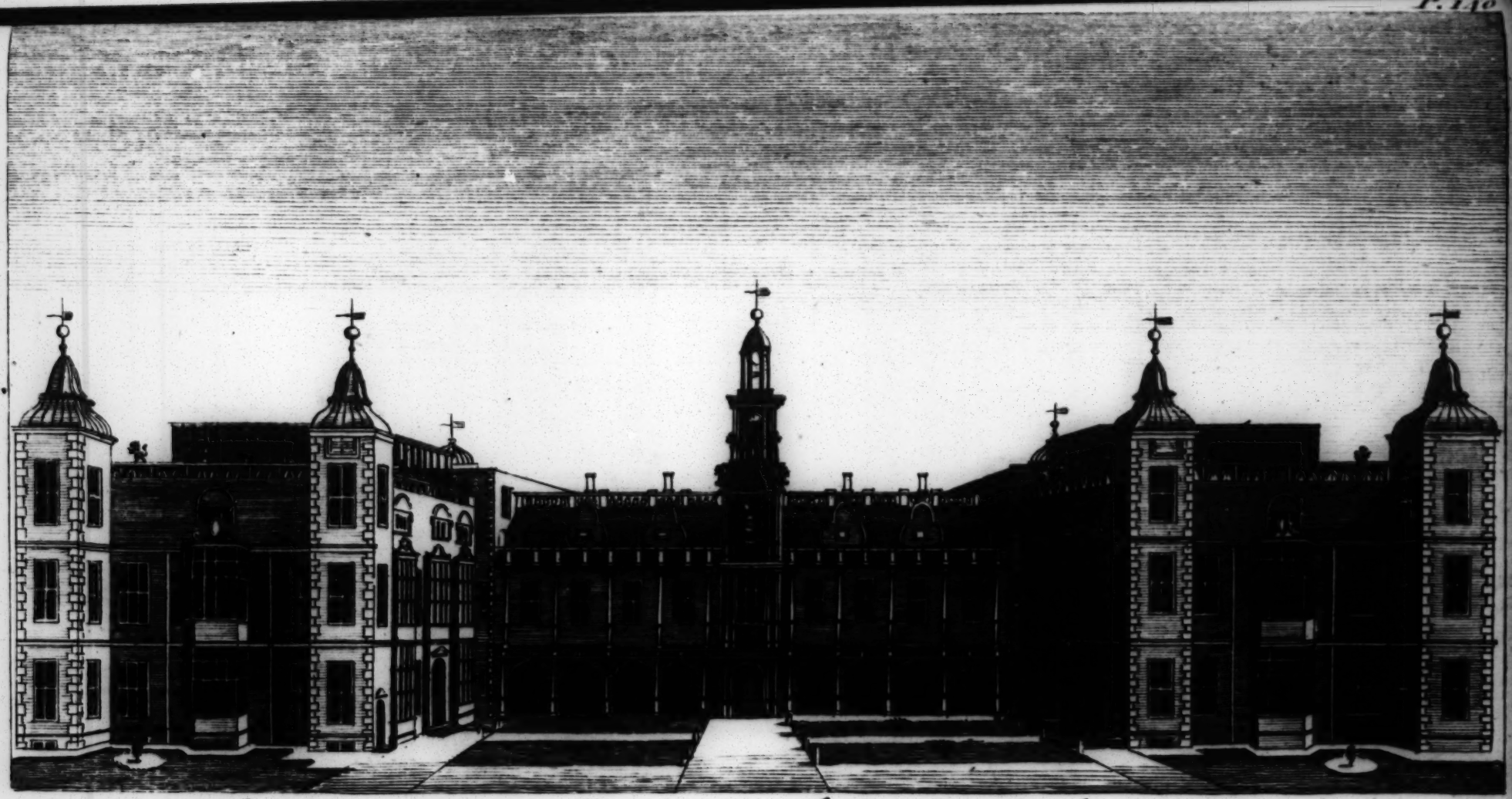
The town is long, and the church, which stands in the middle of it, is a very ancient structure. Here is a free-school founded by Queen Elizabeth, and endowed partly by that Princess, and partly by Alderman Owen of London, whose additional endowment is paid by the fishmongers company. Here is also an alms-house founded and endowed by James Ravenscroft, Esq; for six widows. But what Barnet is most noted for at present is, its races in the month of August, which last three days, and are frequented by vast numbers of all ranks of people from London.

The weekly market at Barnet is on Monday, and it has two annual fairs, each of which holds three days; the first is on the 8th, 9th, and 10th of April; and the second on the 4th, 5th, and 6th of September, for Welch and Scotch cattle.

Barnet is famous for being the place where the decisive battle was fought between the houses of York and Lancaster, on Easter-day, 1471, in which the great Earl of Warwick, stiled the King-maker*, was slain, with many others of the principal nobility. The place supposed to be the field of battle, is a green spot, a little before the meeting of the St. Alban's and Hatfield roads; and here, in the year 1740, an obelisk was erected by Sir Jeremy Sambrooke, on which is the following inscription:

* Vid. P. 95, 96.

Here



Hatfield House the Seat of the Earl of Salisbury.



A View of the Royal Palace at Kensington.

Here was
Fought the
Famous BATTLE
Between EDWARD
the 4th, and the
Earl of WARWICK,
April the 14th,
Anno 1471,
In which the Earl
was defeated,
and ſlain.

About two miles north-weſt from Barnet is *Derehams*, which was the ſeat of the late Earl of Albemarle.

Elſtree, *Idleſtree* or *Eagleſtree*, (for it has been called by all theſe names,) a village near Barnet, upon the borders of Middleſex, is thought by Norden to have been the ſtation of *Sullóniacæ*, mentioned by Antonius in his Itinerary, as at the diſtance of twelve miles from London: but Mr. Camden and Biſhop Gibſon think it was at Brockley-hill in this neigbourhood, many coins, urns, Roman bricks, and other antiquities, having been dug up there.

Totteridge has been adorned with fine ſeats belonging the citizens of London, from the time of King James I. The Saxons gave it the name from its ſituation on the top of a hill. There was anciently a monaſtery here.

Edgeware, which is a town eleven miles from London, in the road to St. Alban's, is ſituated on the very edge of the county of Middleſex. The old Roman way, called Watling-Street, paſſes by here from London.

Harrow on the Hill, is ſituated in the county of Middleſex, twelve miles north-weſt of London. It is famous for a free-ſchool founded by Mr. John Lyons, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and every 4th of Auguſt a ſelect number of the ſcholars, dreſſed in the habit of archers, come with their bows, and ſhoot at a mark for a ſilver arrow.

KENSINGTON.

This is a large and populous village in Middleſex, about two miles from Hyde Park Corner, part of which is in the pariſh of St. Margaret's, Weſtminſter. The palace, which

was

was the ſeat of the Lord Chancellor Finch, afterwards Earl of Nottingham, was purchaſed by King William, who greatly improved it, and cauſed a royal road to be made to it, through St. James's and Hyde Parks, with lamp poſts erected at equal diſtances on each ſide. Queen Mary enlarged the gardens; her ſiſter Queen Anne improved what Mary had begun, and was ſo pleaſed with the place, that ſhe frequently ſupped during the ſummer in the green-houſe, which is a very beautiful one; but her late Majeſty Queen Caroline compleated the deſign, by extending the gardens from the great road in Kenſington to Acton; by bringing what is called the Serpentine river into them, and by taking in ſome acres out of Hyde Park, on which ſhe cauſed a mount to be raiſed, with a chair upon it, that could be eaſily turned round, ſo as to afford ſhelter from the wind. This mount is ſurrounded with a grove of evergreens, and commands a fine view over the gardens to the ſouth and weſt. In ſhort, theſe gardens, which are three miles and a half in compaſs, are kept in great order, and in ſummer-time are reſorted to by great numbers of people. The palace indeed has none of that grandeur, which might be expected in the reſidence of a Britiſh Monarch; its nearneſs to the town makes it very convenient, but it is very irregular in point of architecture. However the royal apartments are grand, and ſome of the pictures are very fine.

On paſſing the baſe court, you enter through a large portico into a ſtone gallery, that leads to the great ſtair caſe, which is a very fine one, and conſiſts of ſeveral flights of black marble ſteps, adorned with iron baluſters finely wrought. The painting here affords the view of ſeveral balconies with groups of figures repreſenting yeomen of the guard, and ſpectators, among whom are drawn Mr. Ulrick, commonly called the young Turk, in the Poloneſe dreſs in which he waited on his late Majeſty King George I. Peter, the wild youth, &c. The ſtair caſe is richly decorated and painted by Mr. Kent.

The firſt room is hung with very fine tapeſtry, repreſenting the goddeſs Diana, hunting and killing the wild boar. Over the chimney is a picture in a grand taſte, repreſenting one of the Graces in the character of Painting, receiving inſtructions from Cupid. This piece is ſaid to be done by Guido Reni. In one corner of the room is a marble ſtatue of Venus, with an apple in her hand; and in another is the ſtatue of Bacchus, whoſe head is finely executed; but the

the body, which is inferior to it, ſeems to be done by another hand.

The ſecond room has its ceiling painted with Minerva, ſurrounded by the arts and ſciences, by Mr. Kent. Over the chimney is a very fine piece repreſenting Cupid admiring Pſyche, while ſhe is aſleep, by Vandyke. On each ſide of the room are hung ſeveral pictures, as King Henry VIII. and the Comptroller of his houſhold, by Holbein: a three quarter picture of King Charles I. and another of his Queen, by Vandyke: the Duke and Ducheſs of York, by Sir Peter Lely: as alſo King William and Queen Mary, when Prince and Princeſs of Orange, over the doors by the ſame hand.

The third room, which was the late Queen's apartment, is adorned with very beautiful tapeſtry, repreſenting a Dutch winter piece, and the various diverſions peculiar to the natives of Holland, done by Mr. Vanderbank. Over the chimney is an admirable picture of King Charles II. King James II. and their ſiſter the Princeſs of Orange, when children, by Vandyke.

In the fourth room is the picture of a battle or ſkirmiſh between the Germans and Italians, by Holbein. Another of Danæ deſcending in a ſhower of gold, and another of the widow Eliot finely executed by our countryman Riley.

In the fifth room is a picture of the crucifixion, and another of our Saviour laid on the croſs, both by Titian: of our Saviour calling St. Matthew from the receipt of cuſtoms, by Annibal Caracci; and of his healing the ſick in the temple, by Verrio: a picture of Henry IV. of France, by Titian: two heads of Queen Mary I. and Queen Elizabeth, when children, by Holbein: the late Queen Anne, when an infant, by Sir Peter Lely: and ſeveral heads by Raphael.

In the ſixth room, or rather gallery, are the pictures of King Henry VIII. and Queen Katharine of Arragon, both by Holbein: King Philip of Spain, and Queen Mary, by the ſame hand: King James I. by Vandyke: King Charles II. the face by Sir Peter Lely: Queen Elizabeth in a Chineſe dreſs, drawn when ſhe was a priſoner at Woodſtock: King James II. when Duke of York, and another of his Queen, both by Sir Peter Lely: King William and Queen Mary in their coronation robes, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. Sir Godfrey was knighted on his painting theſe pictures; King William being doubtleſs pleaſed with ſo fine a picture of his Queen. The next is Queen Anne, after Sir Godfrey Kneller;

ler: and a picture of Queen Caroline, which is but poorly executed. In this room is a curious amber cabinet, in a glass case; and at the upper end a beautiful orrery, likewise in a glass case.

The seventh, which is called the Cupalo room, has a star in the center, and the ceiling all around is adorned with paintings in mosaic: round the room are placed at proper distances, eight bustos of ancient poets, and six statues of the heathen gods and goddesses at full lengh, gilt. Over the chimney piece is a curious bas relief in marble, representing a Roman marriage, with a busto of Cleopatra, by Mr. Rysbrack.

In the King's great drawing-room, over the chimney, is a very fine picture of St. Francis adoring the infant Jesus, held in the lap of the Virgin Mary, Joseph attending, the whole performed by Sir Peter Paul Rubens. In this room are also the holy family, finely painted by Paul Veronese: three priests, by Tintoret: a noble picture of St. Agnes over one of the doors, by Domenichino: St. John Baptist's head, Mary Magdalen, and a naked Venus, all by Titian: a Venus in a supine posture, stealing an arrow out of Cupid's quiver, with beautiful ornaments in the high gusto of the Greek antique, representing Love and the Drama, by Jacoba da Puntormo; upon the original out-lines of the great Michael Angelo Buonaroti: a picture of Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, and his younger brother, when boys, one of the capital pieces of Vandyke: two large pictures by Guido Reni, one of Venus dressing by the Graces; the other of Andromeda chained to a rock: our Saviour in the manger, by Bassan; and a picture of part of the holy family, by Palma, the elder.

The ceiling of this room, in which there is such a mixture of sacred and prophane pieces, is painted with the story of Jupiter and Semele.

In the state chamber, the bed is of crimson damask; and over the chimney is a picture of our Saviour and St. John Baptist, by Raphael.

In the state dressing-room the hangings are all of needle-work; a present from the Queen of Prussia. Here is a picture of Edward VI. by Holbein; of a young nobleman of Venice, by Tintoret: another young nobleman of the same place, by Tintoret; and Titian's lady, painted by himself.

The painted gallery is adorned with many admirable pieces.

At the end is King Charles I. on a white horſe, with the Duke d'Eſpernon holding his helmet; the King is an auguſt and noble figure, with ſome dejection in his countenance; the triumphal arch, curtain, and other parts of the back ground, are finely executed, and ſo kept, that the King is the principal figure that ſtrikes the eye; and at a little diſtance it has more of the life than a picture.

Fronting this picture, at the other end of the gallery, is the ſame King with his Queen, and two children, King Charles II. when a child, and King James II. an infant, in the Queen's lap. The King's paternal tenderneſs is finely expreſſed, his ſon ſtanding at his knee; the Queen's countenance is expreſſive of reſpect towards his Majeſty, and a fond care of her child, which ſhe ſeems to deſire the King to look on. The infant is exquiſitely performed; the vacancy of thought in the face, and the inactivity of the hands, are equal to life itſelf at that age. Theſe two admirable pieces were done by Vandyke.

One of the next capital pictures in this gallery is Eſther fainting before King Ahaſuerus, painted by Tintoret. All the figures are finely drawn and richly dreſſed in the Venetian manner; for the Venetian ſchool painted all their hiſtorical figures in their own habits, thinking them more noble and pictureſque than any other.

The next piece is the nine muſes in concert, finely drawn by the ſame maſter.

Midas preferring Pan to Apollo, is a fine piece, by Andrea Schiavone; but it is a good deal hurt by time; the figures however are well drawn and coloured; and the affectation of judgment in Midas is finely expreſſed.

The ſhepherds offering gifts to Chriſt, St. John in priſon, the ſtory of the woman of Samaria, and John Baptiſt's head are fine pieces, by Old Palma.

Noah's flood, by Baſſan, is a maſterly performance.

Over the chimney is a madona, by Raphael, which, though a ſmall piece, gives a very high idea of that great maſter's abilities. There is alſo in this gallery a madona, by Vandyke, which is exquiſitely performed.

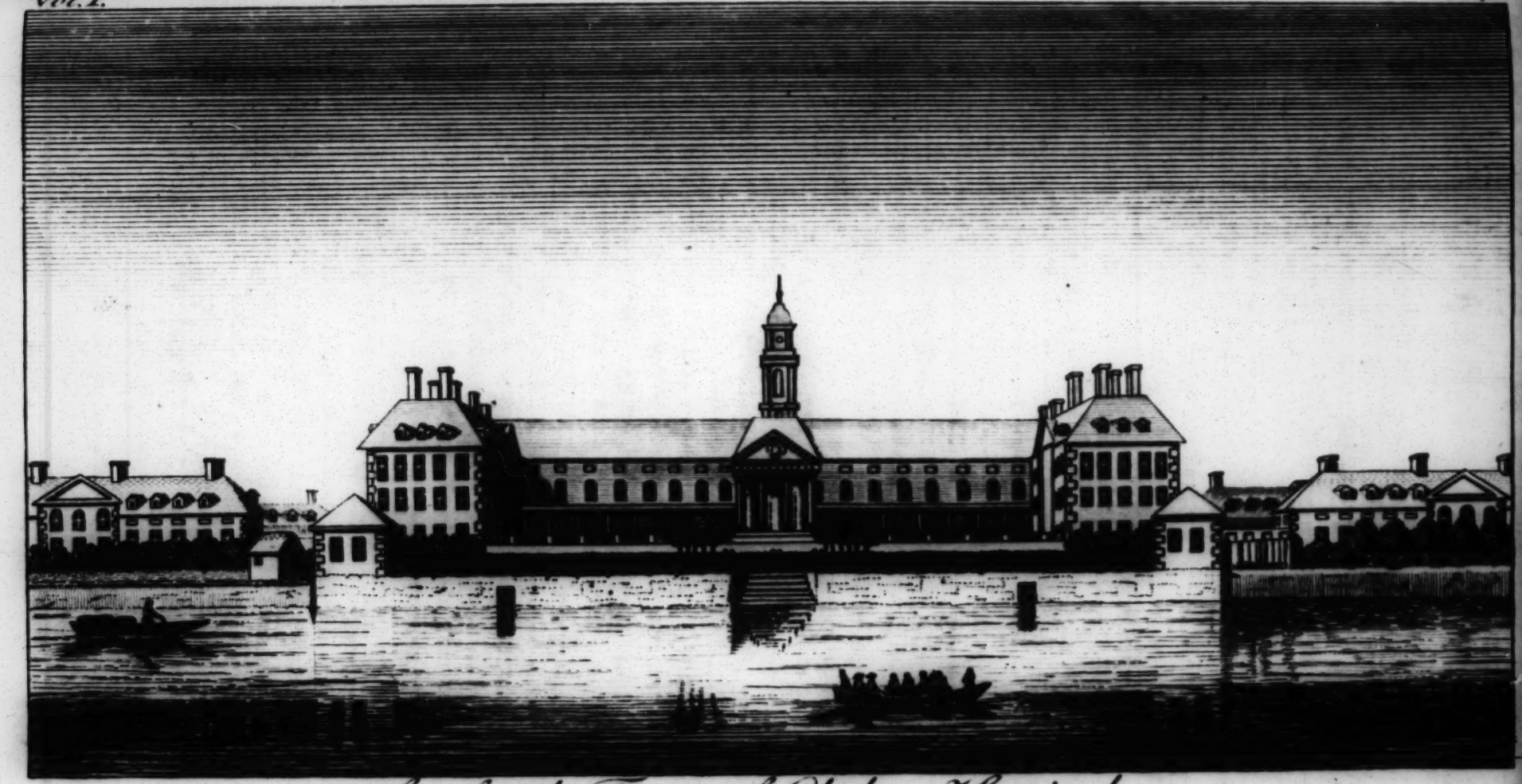
The other pictures here are, the birth of Jupiter, a fine piece, by Julio Romano; a Cupid whetting his arrow, by Annibal Caracci; and a Venus and Cupid, by Titian.

CHELSEA.

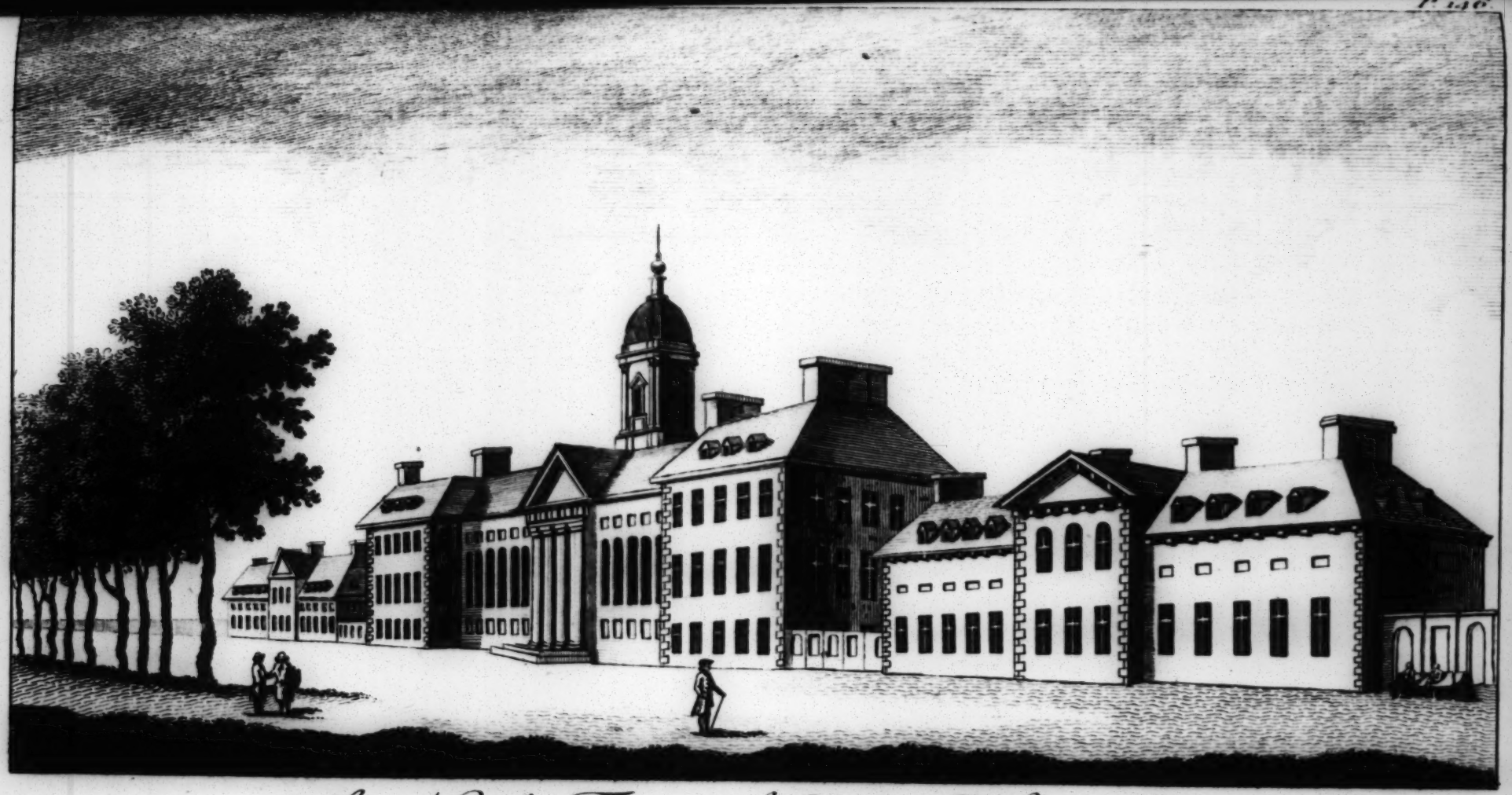
This is a very large and populous village, two miles from London, pleaſantly ſituated on the banks of the Thames, and oppoſite to Batterſea, to which it is joined by a bridge that has been lately erected. But what is moſt remarkable here is CHELSEA HOSPITAL, which is a noble edifice erected for the invalids in the land ſervice. The original building on this ſpot was a college founded by Dr. Sutcliff, Dean of Exeter, in the reign of King James I. for the ſtudy of Polemic divinity, and was endowed to ſupport a Provoſt and Fellows, for the inſtruction of youth in that branch of learning. The King, who laid the firſt ſtone, gave many of the materials, and promoted the work by a large ſum of money, and the clergy were very liberal on the ſame occaſion; but the ſum ſettled upon the foundation by Dr. Sutcliff being far unequal to the end propoſed, the reſt was left to private contributions; and theſe coming in ſlowly, the work was ſtopped before it was finiſhed, and therefore ſoon fell to ruin. At length the ground on which the old college was erected, becoming eſcheated to the crown, Charles II. began to erect the preſent hoſpital, which was carried on by James II. and compleated by William and Mary.

The whole edifice, which was built by the great Sir Chriſtopher Wren, conſiſts of a vaſt range of buildings. The front towards the north opens into a piece of ground laid out in walks for the penſioners; and that facing the ſouth into a garden which extends to the Thames, and is kept in good order. This ſide affords not only a view of that fine river, but of the county of Surry beyond it. In the center of this edifice is a pediment ſupported by four columns, over which is a handſome turret, and through this part is an opening which leads through the building. On one ſide of this entrance is the chapel, the furniture and plate of which were given by King James I. and on the other ſide is the hall, where all the penſioners dine in common, the officers by themſelves. In this hall is the picture of King Charles II. on horſeback, with ſeveral other pieces as large as the life, deſigned by Signior Verrio, and finiſhed by Mr. Cook. Theſe were preſented by the Earl of Ranelagh. The pavement of both the chapel and hall are black and white marble. The altar piece in the chapel is the reſurrection, painted by Sebaſtian Ricci.

The wings, which extend eaſt and weſt, join the chapel and



The South Front of Chelsea Hospital.



The North Front of Chelsea Hospital.

and hall to the north, and are open towards the Thames, on the ſouth; theſe are near 360 feet in length, and about 80 in breadth, they are three ſtories high, and the rooms are ſo well diſpoſed, and the air ſo happily thrown in by means of the open ſpaces, that hardly any thing can be more pleaſant. On the front of this ſquare is a colonade extending along the ſide of the hall and chapel, over which upon the cornice is the following inſcription in capitals:

In ſubſidium et levamen emeritorum ſenio, belloque fractorum, condidit CAROLUS II. *Auxit* JACOBUS II. *Perfecere* GULIELMUS *et* MARIA, *Rex et Regina*, MDCXC.

And in the midſt of the quadrangle is the ſtatue of King Charles II. in the antient Roman dreſs, ſomewhat bigger than the life, ſtanding upon a marble pedeſtal. This was given by Mr. Tobias Ruſtat, and is ſaid to have coſt 500l.

There are ſeveral large buildings adjoining, that form two other large ſquares, and conſiſt of apartments for the officers and ſervants of the houſe, for old maimed officers of horſe and foot, and the infirmary for the ſick.

An air of neatneſs and elegance is obſervable in all theſe buildings. They are compoſed of brick and ſtone, and which way ſoever they are viewed, there appears ſuch a diſpoſition of the parts as is beſt ſuited to the purpoſes of the charity, the reception of a great number, and the providing them with every thing that can contribute to the convenience and pleaſure of the penſioners.

Chelſea Hoſpital is more particularly remarkable for its great regularity and proper ſubordination of parts, which is very apparent in the north front. The middle is very principal, and the tranſition from hence to the extremities, is very eaſy and delightful.

The expence of erecting theſe buildings is computed to amount to 150,000l. and the extent of the ground is above forty acres.

In the wings are ſixteen wards, in which are accommodations for above 400 men, and there are beſides in the other buildings, a conſiderable number of apartments for officers and ſervants.

Theſe penſioners conſiſt of ſuperannuated veterans, who have been at leaſt twenty years in the army; or thoſe ſoldiers who are diſabled in the ſervice of the crown. They wear red coats lined with blue, and are provided with all other cloaths, diet, waſhing and lodging. The Governor has 500l. a year; the

Lieutenant Governor 250l. and the Major 150l. Thirty-ſix Officers are allowed 6d. a day: thirty-four light horſemen, and thirty ſerjeants, have 2s. a week each; forty-eight corporals and drums have 10d. per week; and three hundred and thirty-ſix private men, are each allowed 8d. a week. As the houſe is called a garriſon, all the members are obliged to do duty in their reſpective turns; and they have prayers twice a day in the chapel, performed by two chaplains, who have each a ſalary of 100l. a year. The phyſician, ſecretary, comptroller, deputy treaſurer, ſteward, and ſurgeon, have alſo each 100l. per annum, and many other officers have conſiderable ſalaries. As to the out-penſioners, who amount to between eight and nine thouſand, they have each 7l. 12s. 6d. a year.

Theſe great expences are ſupported by a poundage deducted out of the pay of the army, with one day's pay once a year from each officer and common ſoldier; and when there is any deficiency, it is ſupplied by a ſum raiſed by parliament. This hoſpital is governed by the following commiſſions; the Preſident of the treaſury, the Principal Secretary of ſtate, the Pay-maſter general of the forces, the Secretary at war, the Comptrollers of the army, and by the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the hoſpital.

The Apothecaries Company have a ſpacious and beautiful *phyſic garden* at Chelſea, which contains near four acres, and is enriched with a vaſt variety of plants both domeſtic and exotic. This was given by Sir Hans Sloane, Bart. on condition of their paying a quit-rent of 5l. per annum, and annually delivering to the preſident and fellows of the royal ſociety, at one of their public meetings, fifty ſpecimens of different ſorts of plants, well cured, and of the growth of this garden, till the number of ſpecimens amounts to 2000.

There is alſo at Chelſea a place of public entertainment remarkable for its elegance, and well known by the name of RANELAGH GARDENS, ſo called from their formerly belonging to the Earl of Ranelagh. There is no place of public pleaſure of the kind equal to this in any other part of Europe; and it is the reſort of people of the firſt quality. Though its gardens are beautiful, it is more to be admired for the amphitheatre. This is a circular building, the external diameter is one hundred and eighty-five feet, round the whole is an arcade,

and over that a gallery with a balluſtrade (to admit the company into the upper boxes) except where the entrances break the continuity. Over this are the windows, and it terminates with the roof. The internal diameter is one hundred and fifty feet, and the architecture of the inſide correſponds with the outſide, except that over every column, between the windows, termini ſupport the roof. In the middle of the area, where the orcheſtra was at firſt deſigned, is a chimney having four faces; in which is a fire, whenever the weather makes it neceſſary. The orcheſtra fills up the place of one of the entrances. The entertainment conſiſts of a fine band of muſic with an organ, accompanied by the beſt voices; and of late fireworks of the moſt ſplendid kind have been exhibited here. The company is regaled with tea and coffee.

P A N C R A S.

This is a ſmall hamlet in Middleſex, on the north-weſt ſide of London. It has a church dedicated to St. Pancras, and called St. Pancras in the Fields, an old plain Gothic ſtructure, with a ſquare tower without a ſpire. It is a vulgar tradition that this church is of greater antiquity than St. Paul's cathedral, of which it is only a prebend; but this ariſes from a miſtake; for the church of St. Pancras, termed the mother of St. Paul's, was ſituated in the city of Canterbury, and was changed from a Pagan temple to a Chriſtian church by Auſtin the monk, in in the year 598, when he dedicated it to St. Pancras.

Pancras church-yard is a general burying place for perſons of the Romiſh religion. There are a great number of tombs in it; and in particular a very elegant one erected to the memory of Lady Henrietta Beard, only daughter of James, Earl of Waldegrave, who was firſt married to Lord Edward Herbert, ſon to the Marquis of Powis, and afterwards to Mr. Beard, the celebrated ſinger, and who was alſo one of the managers of Covent-garden theatre. A very handſome monument has likewiſe been lately erected to the memory of Miſs Dorothea Dias de Faria, who was drowned on the 26th of June, 1772, in the fifth year of her age. And another in memory of a proteſtant young Lady, Mary Barſnet, who died in 1750, aged twenty-three years, on whoſe monument are the following lines:

" Go, ſpotleſs honour, and unſully'd truth,
" Go, ſmiling innocence, and blooming youth;

" Go,

" Go, female ſweetneſs, join'd with manly ſenſe,
" Go, winning wit, that never gave offence;
" Go, ſoft humanity, that bleſt the poor,
" Go, ſaint-ey'd patience, from affliction's door;
" Go, modeſty, that never wore a frown,
" Go, virtue, and receive thy heav'nly crown!
" Not from a ſtranger came this heart-felt verſe,
" The friend inſcrib'd thy tomb whoſe tears bedew'd thy
" hearſe."

KENTISH TOWN.

This has ariſen from a ſmall village, to be a place of conſiderable repute; for the air being extremely healthy, many of the citizens of London have built houſes in it; and many others who cannot afford that expence, take ready furniſhed lodgings for the ſummer, particularly thoſe who are afflicted with conſumptions, and other diſorders. There is no pariſh church in the town, but they have a good chapel of eaſe at a little diſtance, belonging to Pancras pariſh. In the town are ſome genteel boarding-ſchools, and many public-houſes, it being much reſorted to by the people of London.

ISLINGTON.

This is a conſiderable village in Middleſex, on the north ſide of London: it has been ſo much enlarged within theſe few years by the addition of new buildings, that it almoſt joins to the capital. It is a place of great antiquity, and appears to have been built by the Saxons, and in the time of William the Conqueror was called Iſendon or Iſledon. By the ſouth weſt ſide of this village, is a fine reſervoir called New River Head, which conſiſts of a large baſon, into which the New River diſcharges itſelf; part of the water is from thence conveyed by pipes to London, while another part is thrown by an engine through other pipes up a hill to a reſervoir, which lies much higher, in order to ſupply the higheſt parts of London.

The church is one of the prebends of St. Paul's; the old Gothic ſtructure lately taken down, was erected in the year 1503, and ſtood till 1751, when it being in a ruinous condition, the inhabitants applied to parliament for leave to rebulid it, and ſoon after erected the preſent ſtructure, which is a very ſubſtantial brick edifice, though it does not want an air of lightneſs. The body is well enlightened, and the angles ſtrengthened and decorated with a plain ruſtic. The floor

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is raiſed conſiderably above the level of the church-yard, and the door in the front is adorned with a portico, which conſiſts of a dome ſupported by four Doric columns; but both the door and the portico appear too ſmall for the reſt of the building. The ſteeple conſiſts of a tower, which riſes ſquare to a conſiderable height, terminated by a cornice ſupporting four vaſes, at the corners. Upon this part is placed an octangular balluſtrade, from within which riſes the baſe of the dome in the ſame form, ſupporting Corinthian columns with their ſhafts wrought with ruſtic. Upon theſe reſts the dome, and from its crown riſes the ſpire, which is terminated by a ball and its fane. Though the body of the church is very large, the roof is ſupported without pillars, and the inſide is extremely commodious, and adorned with an elegant plainneſs.

This pariſh is very extenſive, and includes Upper and Lower Holloway, three ſides of Newington Green, and part of Kingſland. There are in Iſlington two meeting-houſes and a charity-ſchool founded in the year 1613, by Dame Alice Owen, for educating thirty children; this foundation, together with that of a row of alms-houſes, are under the care of the Brewers company.

Iſlington contains a vaſt number of inhabitants, many handſome rows of very neat houſes having been lately built in it. And the number of public-houſes in it is very conſiderable; and there are ſeveral noted places of entertainment in the neighbourhood; particularly the White Conduit Houſe; the Shakeſpeare and Jubilee Gardens, formerly known by the name of Dobney's; New Tunbridge Gardens; and Sadler's Wells, where, during the ſummer ſeaſon, people are amuſed with balance-maſters, walking on the wire, rope-dancing, tumbling, dancing, ſinging, and pantomime entertainments. Indeed, houſes of diſſipation of every kind, have of late years been greatly increaſed in the neighbourhood of London, to a degree that would not have been ſuffered, if the morals of the people were an object of any conſideration to thoſe who are inveſted with the powers of government.

Near the New River, on the north of Iſlington, is an antient edifice, called *Cannonbury-houſe*; and near it ſeveral handſome houſes have been built within theſe few years. The old houſe is partly let out in lodgings, and partly uſed as a genteel public-houſe. At a little diſtance from it is a farm and a public-houſe, called *Highbury Barn*, near which are the remains of ancient fortification, in a place known by the name

name of Reedmoat, or ſix acre field. Moſt of our antiquarians have ſuppoſed that this was the place where Paulinus, the Roman General, fled with his men, when the Britons, under the command of Queen Boadicea, murdered all the inhabitants of London, and ſet fire to that city.

As the reſervoir of the *New River* before mentioned, is near Iſlington, and as this is a work of great public utility, it may not be improper here to give a more particular account of it.—Various were the projects in the reigns of Queen Elizabeth and King James the Firſt, for ſupplying the city of London with a ſufficient quantity of water for domeſtic uſes; the former granted an act of parliament, which gave the citizens liberty to cut and convey a river from any part of Middleſex or Hertfordſhire to the city of London, within the limited time of ten years; and the latter granted another act, in which they obtained the ſame power, but without being confined to any limited time; nobody however began this great and important work, till at laſt Sir Hugh Middleton undertook to bring a river from Amwell in Hertfordſhire to the north ſide of London near Iſlington.

The work began on the 20th of September 1608, and was attended with innumerable difficulties. The diſtance from London is twenty miles, and he was obliged, in order to avoid the eminencies and vallies in the way, to make it run a courſe of thirty eight miles, three quarters and ſixteen poles, and to carry it over two vallies in long wooden frames or troughs lined with lead; that at Buthill being 660 feet in length, and 30 in height; under which, or the paſſage of the land waters is an arch capacious enough to admit under it the largeſt waggon laden with hay or ſtraw: the other near Highbury is 462 feet long and 17 in height, where it is raiſed along the top of high artificial banks, and at the bottom of the hollow ſupported by poles, ſo that any perſon may walk under it. In ſhort, over and under this river, which ſometimes riſes high, and at others is conveyed under ground, runs ſeveral conſiderable currents of land waters, and both above and below it a great number of brooks, rills, and water courſes have their paſſage.

This river, which is of ineſtimable benefit to London, was by this truly great man, brought to the city within the ſpace of five years, and was admitted into the reſervoir near Iſlington on Michaelmas day 1613; on which day Sir Thomas Mid-

Middleton, brother to the great Sir Hugh, was elected Lord Mayor for the enſuing year, who accompanying Sir John Swinnerton, then Lord Mayor, attended by many of the Aldermen, the Recorder, and other gentlemen, repaired to the baſon, now called New River Head, when about ſixty labourers, handſomely dreſſed, and wearing green caps, carrying ſpades, ſhovels, and pickaxes, marched, preceded by drums and trumpets, thrice round the baſon, when ſtopping before the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and other gentlemen, who were ſeated upon an eminence, one of the labourers addreſſed himſelf to them in a long copy of verſes, which being ended, the ſluices were opened, and the ſtream ran plentifully into the reſervoir, under the ſound of drums and trumpets, the diſcharge of ſeveral pieces of ordnance, and the loud acclamations of the people.

Sir Hugh Middleton, to enable himſelf to complete this grand work, had at laſt, after ſpending his own fortune, been obliged to apply to King James I. who advancing him a ſum of money, became entitled to a moiety of its profits; he was alſo obliged to ſell many other ſhares, and in ſhort, was in a manner entirely ruined by a project that has been attended with unſpeakable benefit to this city: ſince by the water of this river, a ſpeedy ſtop has been put to a great number of dreadful fires, and the health of the city has been remarkably preſerved by the cleanlineſs it has introduced among us. Yet ſo little were the advantages that might then, and are now derived from this river, at that time underſtood, that for above thirty years, there were not divided above 5l. odd money, to each of the ſhares, which are 72 in number.

This river now draws moſt of its water from the Lee, which being the property of the city of London, that corporation, contrary to the intereſt of the city in general, oppoſed a bill brought into parliament for giving farther powers to the New River company, to take the advantage that might be obtained by the river Lee; but the oppoſition was without effect, and in 1738-9 the bill paſſed into a law.

The Governors of the New River company then agreed with the proprietors of the lands on the river Lee for a cut of two cubic feet of water from that river, at a certain rate; and after the agreement, told them they would double the price for a four foot cut, which the proprietors agreed to, not conſidering the great diſproportion between the two cuts; and

this cut of the river Lee now ſupplies the largeſt ſhare of the New River water.

In this river there are forty-three ſluices, and over it two hundred and fifteen bridges. On its approaching the reſervoir, called New River Head, there are ſeveral ſmall houſes erected at a conſiderable diſtance from each other on its banks, into which the water runs, and is conveyed by pipes to the nearer parts of the metropolis. On its entering the above reſervoir, it is there ingulphed by fifty-eight main pipes, each of ſeven inches bore; and here alſo an engine worked by horſes, throws a great quantity of water up to another reſervoir, ſituated on much higher ground, from which the water runs in pipes to ſupply the higheſt ground in the city, and its liberties. Many years ago 30,000 houſes were thus ſupplied by this water, and ſince that time ſeveral main pipes have been laid to carry it into the liberties of Weſtminſter.

HOXTON.

This is a very antient place, and in the Conqueror's ſurvey is named *Hocheſton*. It was formerly a town, and had a weekly market; but that has been long ſince diſcontinued. It has been ſo much encreaſed in buildings, that it joins to the metropolis. The moſt remarkable edifice here is ASKE'S HOSPITAL, a handſome building erected by the Haberdaſhers company in the year 1692, purſuant to the will of Robert Aſke, Eſq; who left 30,000l. for building and endowing it, in order to afford lodging and board for twenty poor men of that company, and for as many boys to be inſtructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic. Each of the penſioners hath an apartment conſiſting of three rooms, with proper diet at a common table, and firing; the annual ſum of three pounds, and a gown every ſecond year; which, together with the ſalaries of the chaplain, clerk, butler, porter, and other domeſtics, amount to about 800l. per annum.

A plan of the building was drawn by Dr. Hooke, a learned mathematician of Greſham College, and upon his model it was erected in an advantageous ſituation, fronting the eaſt, with graſs plats before it, adorned with rows of lime-trees and incloſed with a handſome wall and iron gates. On the piers of the great gates at the ſouth end, are two ſtone ſtatues, repreſenting two of Aſke's Hoſpital men, in full proportion. The principal part of the building is only one ſtory high with garrets; where a portico with twenty-one ſtone pil-

lars

lars extends on a line on each ſide of the chapel, which is placed in the middle, and on each ſide above theſe pillars is a range of twenty-two very ſmall windows. The pillars of the chapel extend to the top of the firſt ſtory, and that edifice riſing conſiderably above the reſt of the building, is terminated by a handſome pediment; with a clock, under which is the effigies of the founder in ſtone, cloathed in his gown, and holding in his hand a roll of parchment, which ſeems to be his laſt will. Under him is the following inſcription:

ROBERTO ASKE *Armigero, hujus Hoſpitii Fundatori, Socie. Haberda. B. M. P. C.*

And on one ſide of him is this inſcription:

Anno Chriſti MDCLXXXII. *Societas Haberdaſheorum* de London *hoc Hoſpitium condiderunt, ex Legato & Teſtamento* ROBERTI ASKE *Armigeri, ejuſdem Societatis; ad viginti Senum Alimenta, & totidem Puerorum Educationem.*

On the other ſide this inſcription:

The worſhipful Company of Haberdaſhers built this Hoſpital, purſuant to the gift and truſt of R. ASKE, Eſq; *a late worthy Member of it, for the relief of twenty poor Members, and for the Education of twenty Boys, ſons of decayed Freemen of that company.*

Fronting the entrance of the chapel is a large pair of very handſome iron gates, and at each end of the Hoſpital is an edifice of the ſame height as the chapel.—There are ſundry other alms-houſes at Hoxton, which have been erected for different charitable purpoſes; and, among others, the alms-houſes erected and endowed by Mrs. Mary Weſtby, of Bocking, in Eſſex, widow, in 1749, for fourteen poor women. Theſe are commonly called *the Old Maid's Alms-houſes*; though either maids or widows may be admitted; but they muſt be Diſſenters.

King ſland is a hamlet in the pariſh of Iſlington, lying betwixt Hoxton and Newington; and between Kingſland and Shoreditch church are what are called the Ironmongers Almshouſes, which are very handſome, and have pleaſant walks. They were founded by Sir Robert Geffryes, formerly Lord Mayor of London, who was a member of the Ironmongers

Company, and are appropriated for the reception and ſupport of fifty-ſix decayed members of that Company. Each of them has a room, with part of a cellar, ſix pounds a year in money, and a gown. None are admitted under ſixty years of age; but a wife may reſide with her husband, and when he dies be elected in his room. They have a handſome chapel, where a clergyman reads prayers every day, and preaches on Sundays, for which he has a proper ſalary, with commodious apartments to reſide in.

STOKE NEWINGTON.

This is a village three miles from London, which is very large and populous, great numbers of citizens having built houſes in it, on account of its vicinity to the capital. The church is a ſmall, low, Gothic ſtructure, and belongs to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's; and there is alſo a diſſenting meeting here. Behind the church is a pleaſant grove, ſhaded with tall trees, and ſeats for the accommodation of ſuch as frequent it, for the benefit of the air.

Newington Green, which is a village near Newington, and partly in the ſame pariſh, is a very agreeable place. The principal part conſiſts of a handſome ſquare, in the middle of which is an extenſive and beautiful graſs-plat, with gravel-walks, leading from each of the angles; and on the eaſt ſide is an handſome meeting for Proteſtant Diſſenters.

EDMONTON

Is eight miles from London, and although only a ſmall village in former times, yet by the great increaſe of buildings is now become conſiderable; but the houſes are ſcattered up and down along the road, without any regular order, and few of them join together, being moſtly ſeparated by gardens and encloſures. There is an aſſembly-room here.

ENFIELD

Is a town in Middleſex, about ten miles from London, which is ſuppoſed to have been anciently called *Enfen*, from its ſituation among fens, and in marſhy ground. There was formerly a royal ſeat in it, ſuppoſed to have been built in the reign of King Henry VII. and in the laſt century it was noted for being the reſidence of a great number of tanners, but at preſent little of that trade is carried on here.

The



A View of the Marquis of Caernarvon's Seat at Southgate.

The town is pleaſantly ſituated, and the church, which is a low Gothic ſtructure, ſtands about the middle of it. There is alſo a meeting houſe here, and ſeveral rich citizens of London have their country-ſeats near the town.—There is a weekly market here on Saturday, and a fair held on the 25th of May, and another on the 29th of September.

Lord Lyttleton has informed us, on the authority of an ancient author, who lived in the reign of Henry II. that the citizens of London had a chaſe or foreſt, extending from that part of the city, called Hounſditch, above twelve miles north, and that it was the joint property of the whole corporation. In this foreſt the citizens enjoyed the diverſion of hunting, and ſuch other exerciſes as were common in thoſe warlike times. As commerce and a love of induſtry encreaſed, theſe diverſions were in a great meaſure neglected, the foreſt was gradually laid open, and at laſt became the property of private perſons. *Enfield chace*, which is the only part now remaining of this extenſive foreſt, has been for many years the property of the crown, and is at preſent annexed to the dutchy of Lancaſter.

In the reign of King James I. when that prince reſided at Theobalds, Enfield chace was well ſtocked with deer, the King being extremely fond of hunting; but the parliament army, during the civil war, deſtroyed all the game, cut down the trees, and let the ground out in ſmall farms. It continued in that condition till the reſtoration, when young trees were planted, and the whole ſtocked with game; but it is far inferior to what it was formerly. The ranger, who is appointed by the crown, has a moſt elegant ſeat, called the Lodge, and there are many ſeats belonging to perſons of quality, all along the borders of the chace, particularly at Southgate, where the Marquis of Caernarvon, ſon to the Duke of Chandos, has a moſt noble country houſe, in which his Lordſhip generally reſides, during the ſummer.

CHESHUNT

Is a very agreeable village, in Hertfordſhire, fourteen miles from London, and many of the citizens have their country ſeats here. The Ermine-ſtreet, or Roman military way, paſſes near it, and in a field to the north-weſt are the remains of a ſtrong camp. It is raiſed in an oblong form with deep ditches, but moſt of them are now filled up. There was formerly a Benedictine nunnery here, dedicated to the Virgin Mary; and Edward III. gave this village the privi-

lege

lege of keeping a weekly market, but it is now diſcontinued.

THEOBALDS

Is a moſt pleaſant village, near Cheſhunt, wherein are many fine ſeats belonging to the Citizens of London. The palace of Theobalds, in which King James I. much delighted, now belongs to the Duke of Portland, who lets it out in tenements. This palace, which was very magnificent, was originally built by the great Lord Burleigh; and Hentzner, who has given a deſcription of it in his *Itinerarium*, ſays, that the gallery was painted with the genealogy of the Kings of England, and from thence was a deſcent into the garden, which was encompaſſed with a ditch filled with water, and large enough to have the pleaſure of rowing a boat between the ſhrubs; it was adorned with a great variety of trees and plants, labyrinths made with much labour, a jet d'eau with its baſon of white marble, and with columns and pyramids. In the ſummer houſe, the lower part of which was built ſemicircular, were the twelve Roman Emperors in white marble, and a table of touchſtone; the upper part of it was ſet round with leaden ciſterns, into which water was conveyed through pipes. This ſeat the Lord Burleigh gave to his younger ſon Sir Robert Cecil, in whoſe time King James I. ſtaying there for one night's refreſhment, as he was coming to take poſſeſſion of the crown of England, he was ſo delighted with the place that he gave him the manor of Hatfield Regis in exchange for it, and afterwards enlarged the park, and encompaſſed it with a wall ten miles round. The palace he often viſited, in order to enjoy the pleaſure of hunting in Enfield Chace and Epping Foreſt, and at laſt died there. In the civil wars it was however plundered and defaced, it being the place from whence King Charles I. ſet out to erect his ſtandard at Nottingham; King Charles II. granted the manor to George Monk, Duke of Albermale; but it reverting again to the crown, for want of heirs male, King William III. gave it to William Bentick, whom he created Earl of Portland, from whom it deſcended to the Duke his grandſon: the great park, a part of which was in Hertfordſhire, and a part in Middleſex, is now converted into farms.—In this neighbourhood Richard Cromwell, who had been protector, but abdicated, paſſed the laſt part of his life in a very private manner.

HODDESDON

Is a conſiderable town, ſeventeen miles from London, in the county of Hertford. It is a conſiderable thoroughfare, and a place of great antiquity. It is a conſiderable market for all ſorts of corn. Queen Elizabeth, by charter granted a grammar-ſchool to this town, and endowed it with certain privileges; and an alms-houſe was founded here in the reign of King Henry VI. by Richard Rich, ſheriff of London, and anceſtor to the late Earls of Warwick. Here are the ruins of an ancient chapel; but by whom it was built does not appear, only that it belonged to an hoſpital for leprous perſons, which is now totally demoliſhed. The weekly market is held on Thurſday, and here is a fair for toys on the 29th of July.

WARE

Is a town in Hertfordſhire, twenty-one miles from London, and ſituated in a valley on the eaſt-ſide of the river Lea.—It is ſaid, that ſome ſtrolling parties of the Danes ſailed up this river from the Thames, in their ſmall open boats, and infeſted this part of the country. They likewiſe built a fort here, to ſecure themſelves from the army of Alfred, and for its better defence, raiſed the water ſo high, by a great dam, or as they called it, a Weare, that it was with great difficulty the Engliſh could diſlodge them. And from this circumſtance we are told the town received its name. This place is a conſiderable thoroughfare, being one of the beſt poſt-towns on the north road. Ware was founded in the year 914, and began to be of ſome note in the reign of King John, when the high road to the north, which before went through Hertford, was by the procurement of Sayer de Quincy, then lord of the manor, turned through this town.—It conſiſts of one ſtreet, about a mile in length, with ſeveral back ſtreets and lanes, well inhabited. The church is large, built in the form of a croſs, and has an handſome gallery, erected by the governors of Chriſt's Hoſpital in London, who ſend ſeveral of the children of that hoſpital hither, either for health or education. Beſides a charity ſchool, here are ſeven alms-houſes, well endowed. At the Bull inn in this town, there is a famous bed, much viſited by travellers from London and other places: it is ſaid to be twelve feet ſquare, and capable

capable of containing twenty couple. This town is a great market for corn and malt: 5000 quarters of malt are often ſent in a week to London by the barges, which generally return with coals.—The market is on Tueſday, and here are two fairs held, one on the laſt Tueſday in April, and another on the Tueſday before St. Matthew's day.

Near Ware is a ſpot of ground called Lemon field, where three Roman wine veſſels were dug up in 1729. Theſe veſſels were of a pale reddiſh earth, and of the form of the Roman amphora, with two handles, and pointed at the bottom, for the purpoſe of fixing them in the ground. They were eighteen inches below the ſurface, and full of earth and chalk-ſtones of the neighbouring ſoil. Many human bodies have been dug up hereabouts, but though the ground around them is black, they appeared not to have been burnt, and ſeemed by their ſhallow burial to have been the relics of a battle.—On the ſouth of Ware is *Amwell*, where the New River, of which we have already ſpoken, takes its riſe.

HERTFORD

Is at the diſtance of twenty-one miles from London, and was a place of ſome note in the time of the ancient Britons. The Eaſt Saxon Kings often kept their courts here, and upon the firſt diviſion of the kingdom into counties, it was made a county town. It ſent members to parliament in the reign of King Edward the firſt, but after the ſeventh of Henry the fifth, on the petition of the bailiff and burgeſſes to be excuſed, on account of their poverty, that privilege was diſcontinued till the twenty-ſecond of James the firſt.

In the time of Henry the Seventh, the ſtandard of weights and meaſures was fixed here, and Queen Mary made this a corporation, by the name of bailiffs and burgeſſes; and by her charter, the number of burgeſſes was to have been ſixteen. In the twenty-fifth and thirty-fifth years of Queen Elizabeth, Michaelmas term was kept here, by reaſon of the plague at both times in London; and that Queen granted this town a new charter. King James the Firſt afterwards granted it another charter, with the ſtile of mayor, burgeſſes, and commonalty, to have ten capital burgeſſes, and ſixteen aſſiſtants, and the mayor to be choſen out of the burgeſſes, by both the burgeſſes and aſſiſtants; but now this town is governed by a mayor, a high ſteward, who is generally a nobleman, a recorder, nine aldermen, a town clerk, chamberlain,

berlain, ten capital burgeſſes, and ſixteen aſſiſtants, together with two ſerjeants at mace.

The town of Hertford ſtands pleaſantly in a ſweet air and dry vale: it is built after the figure of a Roman Y, and has a caſtle, placed between the two horns, in which is the ſeſſions-houſe for the county. It has alſo a county gaol, and formerly had five churches, which now are reduced to two, All Saints and St. Andrew's. All Saints is ſituated on the ſouth ſide of the town, and has a tall ſpire, covered with lead, and eight good bells, beſides an organ, and an handſome gallery for the mayor and aldermen of the borough, and for the governor of Chriſt church hoſpital in London, who have erected a good houſe in this town, to receive ſick and ſupernumerary children; they have alſo built a large gallery in the church, in which 200 of their children may be accommodated. St. Andrew's is only remarkable for giving its name to one of the ſtreets. Here are three charity ſchools, and alſo a free grammar ſchool, founded by Richard Hale, Eſq; in the reign of King James the Firſt.

The chief commodities of this town are wheat, malt, and wool; and it is ſaid to ſend no leſs than 5000 quarters of malt to London weekly, by the river Lea. It is however obſerved, that the magnificence of this town is much diminiſhed, ſince the north road from London, which went through it, was turned through the town of Ware.

The caſtle of Hertford was built by King Alfred, to defend the town and neighbourhood againſt the Danes, who came up in their light pinnaces from the Thames by the river Lea, as far as Ware, and erected a fort there, whence they made frequent ſallies to plunder and deſtroy the country.

The members of parliament for Hertford are choſen by the freemen in general, the mayor being the returning officer. The weekly market is on Saturday, and there are four annual fairs held here, namely, on the Saturday fortnight before Eaſter, the twelfth of May, the fifth of July, and the eighth of November.

HACKNEY.

This is a very large, populous, and pleaſant village, in Middleſex, on the north-eaſt ſide of London. It is ſo remarkable for the country ſeats of merchants and rich citizens, that it is ſaid there are not leſs than an hundred gentlemens coaches kept in it. The pariſh has ſeveral hamlets belonging

to it, among which are Clapton on the north, Dorleſton and Shacklewell on the weſt, and Hummerton, which leads to Hackney-marſh, on the eaſt.

Hackney church is an antient Gothic ſtructure; it was a diſtinct rectory and vicarage in the year 1292, and dedicated to St. Auguſtine; but the Knights Templars having obtained a mill and other poſſeſſions in the pariſh, they were, upon the ſuppreſſion of their order, granted to the Knights Templars of St. John of Jeruſalem, from which the church is ſuppoſed to have received the preſent appellation of St. John: however, it was not preſented to by that name till after the year 1660. The living is now only a vicarage, the great tithes being in lay hands.—There are two diſſenting meeting-houſes here.—At the bottom of Hackney-marſh was diſcovered, ſome years ago, the remains of a great ſtone cauſeway, which by the Roman coins found there, appears to have been one of the famous highways made by the Romans.

It is from this place, that the coaches let to the people in London firſt received their name; for in the laſt century, many perſons of condition reſiding in Hackney, and many people having gone on viſits to ſee their friends there, it occaſioned them often to hire horſes, or carriages; ſo that in time it became a common name for ſuch horſes, coaches, and chairs, as were let out to the people of London; and the name has now diffuſed itſelf, not only through Great Britain, but likewiſe Ireland.

BETHNAL-GREEN.

This is a pleaſant village near London, chiefly inhabited by merchants and citizens of London, and has been long noted for private mad-houſes. The church is one of the fifty appointed to be built by act of parliament, and ſtands on the north of Spitalfields. It is a neat commodious edifice, built with brick, coped and coined with free-ſtone; and the tower, which is not high, is of the ſame materials. This village was one of the hamlets of Stepney, from which pariſh it was ſeparated in the late King's reign.—The old Roman military way from the Weſt, paſſed with it to Lea Ferry, at Old Ford.—Within this hamlet, Bonner, Biſhop of London, had formerly a palace.

MILE-

MILE-END

Was ſo called on account of its being a mile from Aldgate; ſuch was its ſituation in former times; but at preſent what is called Mile-end, extends above a mile in length, its fartheſt extremity being bounded by Bancroft's Alms-houſes. There were in antient times ſeveral ſmall hoſpitals, here particularly one for lepers; but no remains of it are left. At preſent there are many good houſes at Mile-end, and more alms-houſes than are probably any where elſe to be met with, within the ſame compaſs of ground.

The firſt that deſerves our notice is that called TRINITY HOSPITAL, which was founded by the corporation of the Trinity Houſe. It is a very noble, and yet not a very expenſive edifice; but is rendered beautiful by its ſituation, and the agreeable manner in which it is laid out. It conſiſts of two wings and a center, wherein is the chapel, which riſes conſiderably higher than the other buildings, and has an aſcent to it by a handſome flight of ſteps ſecured by iron rails; this chapel has large windows, and is adorned with a pediment; behind it riſes a turret, ornamented with a clock, and crowned with a ſane. On each ſide of the chapel, are two ſets of apartments exactly reſembling the wings.

The wings are low but neat buildings, with an aſcent of ſeven ſteps to each pair of doors, ſecured by brick walls capped with ſtone, and there are ſix of theſe aſcents to each wing, beſides two in the front, and one on each ſide the chapel. Between each of theſe aſcents is a pump fixed cloſe to the wall.

It is remarkable that all theſe aſcents lead to the upper ſtory; there are however rooms below, but theſe are under ground, and the windows upon a level with a broad ſtone pavement, that ſurrounds the area next the houſes. In the centre of each wing is a handſome pediment, adorned with the company's arms, with the repreſentation of ropes, anchors, and ſea weeds, in open work, ſpread over the face of the pediments, and the area within conſiſts of handſome graſs-plats, divided by gravel walks, kept in excellent order, leading down the middle, and acroſs to the centre of the area, where is a ſtatue in ſtone of Mr. Robert Sandes, well executed. He has a bale of goods placed behind; he ſtands with his right foot upon another bale, and near his left foot is a ſmall globe, and anchor. On the pedeſtal is the following inſcription:

To the memory of CAPTAIN ROBERT SANDES, an elder brother, and deputy maſter of the corporation of Trinity Houſe, who died in 1701, and bequeathed to the poor thereof one hundred pounds; alſo the reverſion (after two lives) of a freehold eſtate in the county of Lincoln of 147l. a year, now in their poſſeſſion. This ſtatue was erected by the corporation A. D. 1746.

The end of each wing next the road has an empty niche, and over it is a ſmall pediment, on each ſide of which is placed a ſmall ſhip.

The ground on which this hoſpital ſtands was given to the corporation of the Trinity-houſe by Capt. Henry Mudd, an elder brother, and the above beautiful and commodious building was erected by the company in the year 1695, for the reception of twenty-eight maſters of ſhips, or their widows, each of whom receives 16s. per month, 20s. a year for coals, and a gown every ſecond year.

Adjoining to the Trinity alms-houſes are eight others, belonging to the Drapers company, for the widows of four freemen and four ſailors, who have each an allowance of 1s. 8d. per week, with half a chaldron of coals at Michaelmas, and a gown every two years.

There are are alſo near the ſame place twelve alms-houſes, belonging to the Skinners company, for twelve widows, who have each an allowance of five pounds four ſhillings a year, with half a chaldron of coals.

Fuller's alms-houſes, founded by a judge of that name, in 1592, for twelve poor men, are in that neighbourhood. And there are alſo a few alms-houſes, for the widows of ſhip-maſters, founded by Capt. Fiſher, who ſetttled upon it a freehold of forty pounds a year.

But the moſt ſplendid foundation of the kind here, is BANCROFT's beautiful alms houſes, ſchool, and chapel; which were erected by the Drapers company in the year 1735, purſuant to the will of Mr. Francis Bancroft, who bequeathed to that company the ſum of 28,000l. and upwards, in real and perſonal eſtates, for purchaſing a ſite, and building upon it an alms-houſe, with convenient apartments for twenty-four almsmen, a chapel, and ſchool-room for one hundred poor boys, and two dwelling houſes for the ſchoolmaſters, and endowing the ſame. He alſo ordered that each of the alms-men ſhould have 8l. and half a chaldron of coals yearly, and a

gown

gown of baize every third year; that the ſchool boys ſhould be cloathed and taught reading, writing, and arithmetic; that each of the maſters, beſides their houſes, ſhould have a ſalary of 30l. per annum, and the yearly ſum of 20l. for coals and candles, for their uſe and that of the ſchool; with a ſufficient allowance for books, paper, pens and ink; that the committee of the court of aſſiſtants ſhould have 5l. for a dinner, at their annual viſitation of the alms-houſes and ſchool; and that 3l. 10s. ſhould be given for two half yearly ſermons to be preached in the pariſh churches of St. Helen and St. Michael, Cornhill, or elſewhere, in commemoration of this foundation, at which the alms-men and boys were to be preſent. To each of theſe boys, when put out apprentices, he gave 4l. but if they were put to ſervice they were to have no more than 2l. 10s. to buy them cloaths.

The edifice is not only neat but extremely elegant, conſiſting of two wings and a center detached from both of them. In the middle of the front is the chapel, before which is a noble portico, with Ionic columns, and coupled pilaſters at the corners, ſupporting a pediment, in the plane of which is the dial. There is an aſcent to the portico by a flight of ſteps, and over the chapel is an handſome turret. On each ſide of the portico, are two houſes like thoſe in the wings. The conſtruction of the wings is uniform, lofty and convenient; twelve doors in each open in a regular ſeries, and the windows are of a moderate ſize, numerous, and proportioned to the apartments they are to enlighten. The ſquare is ſurrounded with gravel walks, with a large graſs plat in the middle, and next the road the wall is adorned with handſome iron rails and gates. In ſhort, the ends of the wings next the road being placed at a conſiderable diſtance from it, the whole is ſeen in a proper point of view, and appears to the greateſt advantage.

It is worthy of remark, that this Bancroft, who left ſo large a ſum for erecting and endowing this fine hoſpital, and even ordered two ſermons to be annually preached in commemoration of his charity, was, according to the laſt edition of Stow's Survey, one of the Lord Mayor's officers, and by informations and ſummoning the citizens before the Lord Mayor, upon the moſt trifling occaſions, and other things not belonging to his office, not only pillaged the poor, but alſo many of the rich, who rather than loſe time in appearing before the magiſtrate, gave money to get rid of this common

common peſt of the citizens, which, together with his numerous quarterages from the brokers, &c. enabled him to amaſs annually a conſiderable ſum of money. But by theſe and other mercenary practices, he ſo incurred the hatred and ill-will of the citizens of all ranks and denominations, that the perſons who attended his funeral obſequies, with great difficulty ſaved his corpſe from being joſtled off the bearers ſhoulders in the church, by the enraged populace, who ſeized the bells, and rang them for joy at his unlamented death.

It is farther remarkable of this Mr. Bancroft, that he entertained a notion that he ſhould riſe from the dead, after a certain number of years, and ordered his body to be preſerved within a ſhow-glaſs, in the church of St. Helen's, Biſhopſgate-ſtreet, where it ſtill lies, and the door is, by his directions in his laſt will, ſet open, during the time that the annual ſermon is preached in that church in memory of himſelf. But notwithſtanding theſe precautions, and the many opportunities that have been given him of changing his quarters, Mr. Bancroft ſtill continues very peaceably in the place wherein he was originally depoſited.

STEPNEY

Is a village near Mile-end, of great antiquity. This pariſh was of ſuch vaſt extent, and ſo amazingly increaſed in buildings, as to produce the pariſhes of St. Mary Stratford at Bow, St. Mary Whitechapel, St. Ann's Limehouſe, St. John's at Wapping, St. Paul's Shadwell, St. George Ratcliff Highway, Chriſt Church Spitalfields, and St. Matthew's Bethnal Green; all which have been ſeparated from it, and yet it ſtill remains one of the largeſt pariſhes within the bills of mortality, and contains the hamlets of Mile-end, Old and New Towns, Ratcliff and Poplar.

The village of Stepney is remarkable for its church, and the great number of tomb-ſtones, both in that edifice and its ſpacious cemetry. It has alſo an independant meeting houſe, and an alms-houſe. The village however is but ſmall, and conſiſts of few houſes beſides thoſe of public entertainment; many people of both ſexes reſorting thither on Sundays, and at Eaſter and Witſun-holidays, to eat Stepney buns, and to regale themſelves with ale, cyder, &c.

There was a church here ſo long ago as the time of the Saxons, when it was called the church of all Saints, *Eccleſia omnium Sanctorum*; and we read of the manor of Sepney under

under the reign of William the Conqueror, by the name of Stibenhede, or Stiben's-Heath; but it does not appear when the church changed its name by being dedicated to St. Dunſtan, the name it now bears.

When the preſent church was erected is not recorded; the wall and battlements are built of brick and wrought ſtone, plaſtered over; and the roof is covered with lead. It is of a very conſiderable extent, for it is an hundred and four feet long, though it is no more than fifty-four broad; the height of the roof is thirty-five feet, and that of the tower, with its turret, ninety-two feet. The pillars, arches and windows, are of a modern Gothic, and the weſt porch, built in 1610, has no reſemblance to the reſt of the building, it being of the Tuſcan order. The tower, which is plain and heavy, is ſupported at the corners by a kind of double buttreſſes; it is crowned with ſquare plain battlements, without pinnacles, and with a ſmall mean turret; and the ſame kind of battlements are carried round the body of the church.

On the inſide are three galleries and an organ, and the altar-piece is adorned with four Corinthian pilaſters, with their entablature and a pediment; theſe have gilt capitals; with the arms of Queen Anne carved; but what is moſt ſingular is a ſtone on the eaſt ſide of the portico, leading up to the gallery, on which is the following inſcription.

Of Carthage great I was a ſtone,
O mortals read with pity!
Time conſumes all, it ſpareth none,
Men, mountains, towns, nor city:
Therefore O mortals! all bethink
You where unto you muſt,
Since now ſuch ſtately buildings
Lie buried in the duſt.

It is probable this ſtone was really brought from Carthage, otherwiſe this inſcription would ſcarcely be permitted to be there; but as a modern author obſerves, it is to be hoped, that he who ordered it to be fixed there did not go to Carthage on purpoſe to fetch it.

Among the great number of tomb-ſtones in this church-yard, there is a very handſome one to the memory of Sir John Leake, an eminent Engliſh Admiral. And at the eaſt-end of the church-yard, near the church, is a monument of

white marble, adorned with a cherub, urn, palm-branches and a coat of arms, under which is the following inſcription:

Here lieth interred the body of Dame Rebecca Berry, the wife of Thomas Elton of Stratford Bow, Gent. who departed this life April 16, 1696, aged 52.

Come ladies, you that would appear
Like angels fair, come dreſs you here;
Come dreſs you at this marble ſtone
And make that humble Grace your own,
Which once adorned as fair a mind,
As e'er yet lodg'd in woman kind.
So ſhe was dreſs'd, whoſe humble life
Was free from pride, was free from ſtrife:
Free from all envious brawls and jars
(Of human life the civil wars)
Theſe ne'er diſturb'd her peaceful mind,
Which ſtill was gentle, ſtill was kind.
Her very looks, her garb, her mien,
Diſclos'd the humble mind within.
Trace her through ev'ry ſcene of life,
View her as widow, virgin, wife,
Still the ſame humble ſhe appears,
The ſame in youth, the ſame in years;
The ſame in low and high eſtate,
Ne'er vex'd with this, ne'er mov'd with that.
Go, ladies, now, and if you'd be
As fair, as great, as good as ſhe,
Go learn of her humility.

Near the ſouth ſide of the church on a marble tomb-ſtone, adorned with a coat of arms, are the following lines on Capt. Thomas Chevers, his wife, and a ſon, who died at five days old.

Reader, conſider well how poor a ſpan,
And how uncertain is the life of man:
Here lie the huſband, wife, and child, by death
All three in five days time depriv'd of breath.
The child dies firſt, the mother on the morrow
Follows, and then the father dies with ſorrow.
A Cæſar falls by many wounds, well may
Two ſtabs at heart the ſtouteſt captain ſlay.

On

On a ſtone near the foot path on the north weſt ſide, is the following inſcription:

Whoever treadeth on this ſtone,
I pray you tread moſt neatly,
For underneath the ſame doth lie
Your honeſt friend Will. Wheatly.

The laſt inſcription we ſhall mention is the following ſhort one, on the ſouth-weſt ſide of the church.

Here lies the body of Daniel Saul,
Spittlefields weaver, and that is all.

POPLAR.

This is a hamlet of Stepney, ſituated on the Thames, and obtained its name from the great number of poplar trees that anciently grew there. The chapel of Poplar was erected in the year 1654, when the ground upon which it was built, together with the church yard, were given by the Eaſt India company, and the edifice erected by the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants and others; ſince which time that Company has not only allowed the Miniſter a convenient dwelling houſe, with a garden and field containing about three acres, but has allowed him 20l. per annum during pleaſure.

Poplar Marſh, called the Iſle of Dogs, from the great noiſe made by the King's hounds that were kept there during the reſidence of the royal family at Greenwich, is rather an iſthmus than an iſland, and is reckoned one of the richeſt ſpots of ground in England; for it not only raiſes the largeſt cattle, but the graſs it bears is eſteemed a great reſtorative of all diſtempered cattle.

Here are two alms houſes, beſides an hoſpital belonging to the Eaſt India company

Blackwall is chiefly noted for ſhip carpenters, and other artiſts employed in making utenſils for the navy, and is one of the greateſt rendezvous of the Eaſt-India ſhips.

STRATFORD-LE-BOW.

This is a village in Middleſex, commonly known by the name of Bow, a little to the eaſt of Mile end, and is divided from Stratford in Eſſex by the river Lea, over which there is a ſtone-bridge, of which we have already made men-

tion*. The church is very ancient, being built by Henry II. adjoining to which is a good free-ſchool. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth this village was noted for bakers; for it is ſaid that all the perſons of that profeſſion who ſupplied London with bread, then reſided here. From hence it was carried to London in carts, and ſold to the people at their own doors. There is at preſent a conſiderable manufactory carried on here, for making of porcelain, which is brought to ſuch perfection as to be little inferior to that of China. There are alſo great numbers of ſcarlet dyers and callico printers reſide here, for the conveniency of water and grounds to dry their clothes. There is a fair held here in Whitſun-week.—A little to the ſouth of this village is another named *Bromley*, which is pleaſantly ſituated, wherein there are many handſome houſes.

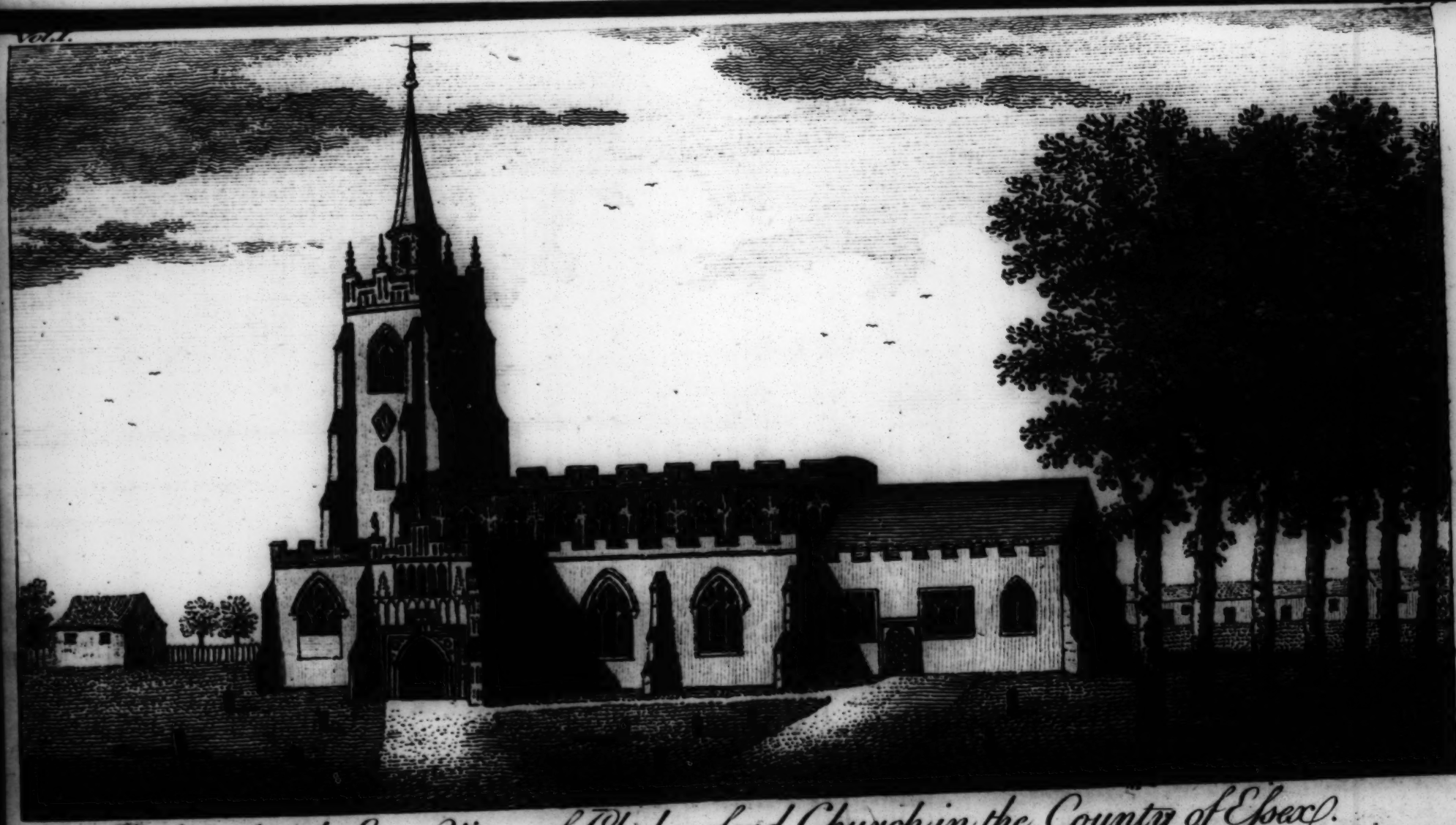
HAVING deſcribed the moſt remarkable places, public edifices, royal palaces, and ſeats, within the ſtiſtance of twenty miles round London, we ſhall now proceed to treat of other parts of the kingdom, and to give an account of ſuch other places, elegant ſeats, and ſplendid edifices, and other curious particulars, as may be moſt deſerving the attention of the inquiſitive reader.

CHELMSFORD.

This is a conſiderable town in the county of Eſſex, which is ſituated at the confluence of two rivers, the Chelmer and the Cann; from the former of which it derived its name. It is the county town, and is diſtant from London twenty-nine miles. The town conſiſts but of four ſtreets, but is regular and well built. The entrance to it from the London road is over an old ſtone bridge, built by Maurice, Biſhop of London in the reign of Henry the Firſt. As ſoon as this is paſſed over, a ſpacious ſtreet preſents itſelf to the view of the traveller, at the upper end of which, upon a little aſcent, ſtands the ſhire-houſe. Each ſtreet lies with an eaſy deſcent towards the centre, and is waſhed with a current of clear water. The Chelmer and the Cann form here an angle; along which lie many pleaſure gardens, and ſome of them are agreeably laid out.

In an open place nearly a ſquare, adjoining to the ſhire-houſe,

* See page 55, 56.



The South East View of Chelmsford Church, in the County of Essex.



Moulsham Hall in Essex, the Seat of Lr. Wm. Mildmay Bt. dead.

houſe, ſtands a conduit. It is of a quadrangular form, about fifteen feet high, built with ſtone and brick: it has four pipes, on each ſide, from which the pureſt water is perpetually flowing. The following inſcription is on the ſide that fronts the part from whence the ſpring riſes. 'This conduit in one 'minute runs one hogſhead and a half, and four gallons and a 'half. In one day 2262 hogſheads and 54 gallons. In one 'month 63,360 hogſheads. And in one year 825,942 hogſ-'heads and 54 gallons.'

The aſſizes, general quarter ſeſſions, and other county courts, are held at Chelmsford; and likewiſe are held the elections for the knights of the ſhire; and here ſtands the county-gaol. The great road from London to Colcheſter, to Harwich, to Suffolk, and many parts of Norfolk, lies through this town; ſo that it is furniſhed with ſeveral good inns. Adjoining to the ſhire-houſe is a good market place, where a market is held every Friday, ſupplied with corn, meat, fiſh, fowls, &c. The church is an handſome ancient ſtructure, ſituated at the end of the town. There are ſeveral handſome monuments in it erected in memory of the Mildmay family; one in particular for Benjamin Mildmay, Earl of Fitzwalter.—There is a good free-ſchool in this town, which was founded by King Edward the Sixth, beſides two other charity-ſchools.

Sir William Mildmay, Bart. has a very handſome ſeat near this town, known by the name of MOULSHAM HALL. It is pleaſantly ſituated on an eaſy aſcent, about a quarter of a mile on the eaſt ſide of Chelmsford. The grand front commands Danbury-hill. It is a very regular edifice, and on the top of it are three ſtatues, repreſenting Diana, Apollo, and Mercury: under theſe are the family arms in baſſo relievo, carved in free-ſtone. The other parts of the houſe have a view of the London road, of the town of Chelmsford, and of the park and gardens. It was rebuilt by the late Earl of Fitzwalter, and was ſo conſtructed as to be at once elegant and commodious. The pilaſters, cornices, entablatures, and other decorations, are of ſtone. In the inſide is a quadrangular court flagged. It has a gallery on each floor round it, by which means an eaſy acceſs is obtained to all the different apartments, without the inconveniency of making any of them a paſſage.

The principal rooms are large and well diſpoſed. The grand hall at the entrance is lofty, and the cieling curiouſly

wrought with fret-work. In the breakfaſt room are many pictures of the Mildmay family, ſome of which are well executed. Among theſe are Sir William Mildmay, who was chancellor of the exchequer in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and founder of Emanuel College, Cambridge. The great picture room contains ſeveral family portraits; and here is alſo a good piece of the old Duke of Schombergh on horſeback, attended by a black who carries his helmet. In the little picture room contiguous to this, are ſome good paintings: on the right hand the door, is ſeen an half length of an old woman in a white hood, whoſe diſtorted features ſhew the utmoſt diſtreſs. Upon her ſhoulder a caterpillar is ſeen crawling, which is ſaid not only to have cauſed the violent agitation apparent in her face, but alſo her death. Here is alſo an antique painting of Matilda, daughter to the Lord Robert Fitzwalter, who was ſaid to be poiſoned in the abbey of Dunmow by King John. And in another room here, is a picture of one Sir Henry Mildmay, a branch of this family, repreſenting him as dead and laid out, covered with a black velvet pall. It is ſaid that he died abroad, and that a faithful ſervant, who accompanied him, employed a limner to draw him after his deceaſe. It is ſo well done, as to ſtrike the beholder with ſome degree of horror; and for this reaſon has been removed from the collection to an anti chamber.—The gardens belonging to this ſeat are neatly laid out, and here is alſo a park prettily diſpoſed.

Facing Moulſham hall are ſix alms-houſe, which were founded by Sir Thomas Mildmay, Bart. and Anne his wife, for ſix poor people. And at a little diſtance from hence there was formerly an houſe of Dominican friars. The building was very ſtrong, being a compoſition of brick, flint, and free-ſtone. The kitchen remained till within theſe few years, and was eſteemed a great curioſity; the room being ſupported and decorated in the manner of the theatre in Oxford. The ſite of it is now called *the Friars*.—In a field called Long-ſtumps, between Moulſham hall and Gallywood common, formerly ſtood a chapel, which belonged to the abbey of St. Oſyth.

NEW-HALL.

This ſeat is now the property of Lord Waltham, and is ſituated in the pariſh of Boreham, which is three miles from Chelmsford. It is not certainly known by whom this edifice was erected; but it is ſuppoſed to have been built by Butler,

Earl



Earl of Ormond, in the reign of King Henry VII. It was once made a place of royal reſidence by King Henry VIII. who in 1524 kept the feaſt of St. George here. It afterwards came into the poſſeſſion of George Monk, Duke of Albemarle, famous for the ſhare he had in bringing about the Reſtoration, who lived here in great pomp. The late Lord Waltham took down a conſiderable part of this great edifice, and yet reſerved enough of it to make a noble and commodious country ſeat for himſelf, to which he added ſeveral new offices. It muſt, indeed, in its primitive grandeur, have been a houſe of extraordinary ſize, if what is very confidently ſaid be true, namely, that what is now left is only one tenth part of the original building.

The great hall is one of the nobleſt in the kingdom. At the entrance of it the beholder is ſtruck with its grandeur, it being upwards of forty feet high, ninety in length, and fifty wide. Oppoſite to the grand entrance, is another door, which formerly led into a ſpacious court: over this are the arms of Henry VIII. done in baſſo relievo in free ſtone, and well executed. The preſent Lord Waltham has greatly improved this ſeat, and is now laying out the gardens and park with much taſte. He has made a noble piece of water in the new gardens behind the houſe, and erected near it a good green-houſe. He has likewiſe added to the other buildings a new wing for ſtables and coach-houſes. The avenue which leads from the great road to the houſe is near a mile long, and has double rows of lofty trees on each ſide. It is reckoned the fineſt in England, and gives a very venerable air to this magnificent manſion.

In the ſame pariſh, Richard Hoare, Eſq. an eminent banker in London, has a fine ſeat. It is beautifully ſituated at the top of an avenue of trees, between which is a fine piece of water, extending from the road nearly to the houſe. The houſe itſelf is not very large, but of an elegant conſtruction, built of white brick: the inſide is adorned with marble chimney pieces, and other decorations, the ſpoils of the ancient manſion of New-hall. The gardens are prettily diſpoſed behind it; from theſe runs a delightful lawn down to the banks of the Chelmer, which, together with Danbury-hill, and various other beautiful objects that here meet the eye, furniſh a moſt agreeable landſcape.

Boreham church is an ancient edifice, and there are here the remains of a fine monument in the Suſſex chapel, which

was

was erected to perpetuate the memory of the noble family of that name. There are three alabaſter figures of Robert Radcliff, Henry Radcliff, and Thomas Radcliff, Earls of Suſſex; and in the vault, which is very neat, are twelve coffins, containing the remains of theſe noblemen, and others of the ſame family. Some of them have inſcriptions on one ſide, and a ſtar and garter on the other. Others are caſt in a human ſhape, with eyes, noſe, mouth, &c. This ancient chapel and monument were for many years in a ruinous ſtate, it being a ſubject of diſpute to whom it belonged to preſerve and repair them. But Richard Hoare, Eſq. having obtained a faculty to convert the chapel in to a place of interment for his family, has repaired it for that purpoſe at a conſiderable expence.

In the church-yard is erected a Mauſoleum for the Waltham family, in the imitation of the Temple of the Winds at Athens. It was built with white brick and ſtone: the remains of the late Lord Waltham are here depoſited.

About three miles from Chelmsford is the pariſh of *Widford*, wherein John Richard Comyns, Eſq. has an handſome ſeat. It is a neat modern built houſe, ſurrounded by a good park and pleaſant gardens, well watered. It is called *Highlands*, from the loftineſs of its ſituation; which circumſtance renders it very delightful, from the ſeveral pleaſing proſpects it commands. It was erected by the late Sir John Comyns, Chief Baron of the Exchequer.

INGATESTONE.

This is a market-town in Eſſex, ſix miles from Chelmsford, and twenty three from London. It conſiſts chiefly of inns, being a poſt town, and the great thoroughfare to Norfolk, Suffolk, Harwich, and Colcheſter. A conſiderable market for live cattle is held here every Wedneſday; and a very large fair is annually held here on the firſt of December, the principal commodity of which is alſo live cattle.

Ingateſtone Hall, the property of Lord Petre, is a venerable ſtately pile of building, having within a ſpacious court, and before it is another, round which are the offices. It lies very low, but upon that account is well ſupplied with water, and ſtored with fiſh-ponds; and the gardens are laid out in an elegant manner.—In the ſame pariſh is alſo a very good modern built houſe, called *the Hide*; which was built by

by the late Timothy Brand, Eſq; who was high-ſheriff of the county of Eſſex in 1721, and it is now in poſſeſſion of Thomas Brand, Eſq.——Ingateſtone church is a good brick edifice, and contains ſome handſome monuments in memory of the Petre family.

In the pariſh of *Margaretting*, which joins to Ingateſtone and Widford, Richard Holden, Eſq; has a pleaſant manſion-houſe, known by the name of *Cold Hall*. It is an elegant modern building, ſituated on an eminence, with gardens well laid out.—There is alſo in this pariſh, on the left hand ſide of the road leading from Chelmsford to Ingateſtone, a very good houſe belonging to Humphrey Sidney, Eſq. Before the houſe is a pleaſant avenue of ſtately trees.—There is a manor in this pariſh, named Shenfield, which is ſaid to be one of the houſes of pleaſure where King Henry VIII. uſed to reſort to his miſtreſſes. The houſe lay in a bottom, had many large buildings about it, and was ſurrounded by a moat. It had a draw bridge, at the extremity of which were two ſtrong watch-towers, of brick; and there was a chapel adjoining to the houſe. But moſt of the original buildings, if not all, are now pulled down, and it is become the habitation of a private gentleman.

Tradition ſays, that there was more than one place in the county of Eſſex, to which Henry VIII. uſed occaſionally to retire with his miſtreſſes. At ſome diſtance from hence is the pariſh of Blackmore, which he is reported to have made uſe of for his amorous retreats. The manor houſe of Blackmore is alſo called Jericho; and we are told, that when Harry choſe to retreat from public buſineſs, and indulge himſelf in the embraces of his courtezans, the cant phraſe among the courtiers was, "He was gone to Jericho." He is alſo ſaid to have made uſe of Newland-hall in this county for the ſame purpoſe. But, in truth, much more is ſaid of Henry's miſtreſſes by the traditionary reports of the people of Eſſex, than is to be met with in our hiſtorians.

In the pariſh of *Great Waltham*, which is about four miles from Chelmsford, John Jolliff Tuffnel, Eſq; has an handſome ſeat, about a quarter of a mile from the church, known by the name of *Langleys*. It ſtands on a pleaſant eminence; the foot and ſides of which are waſhed by the river Chelmer on the north, and a brook on the ſouth. There is a good park around it and pleaſant gardens. Great Waltham church is

a ſtrong brick building, and contains ſome handſome monuments.

WITHAM.

This is a neat and pleaſant town, about thirty-ſeven miles from London, and between eight and nine from Chelmsford. It is a poſt town, and contains ſome good inns. It has a market for grain on Tueſdays, and two fairs are held here annually, one on the Monday before Whitſunday, and the other on the 14th of September.—Edward, the ſon of King Alfred, commonly called Edward the Elder, built this town in the beginning of his reign, and reſided at Malden during the time it was building.——Witham church ſtands upon an eminence, about half a mile weſt from the town. The walls both of the church and ſteeple are of Roman flint, except the top of the tower, which is brick. There are ſome monuments in the church, two of which are ancient.

At the entrance into Witham from the Colcheſter road, upon the left hand, is a good houſe and gardens belonging to the Earl of Abercorn; and General Douglas has alſo an handſome houſe in the ſame pariſh.

In the pariſh of *Great Bracktead*, which is about three miles from Witham, Peter Du Cane, Eſq; has an elegant ſeat, called *Braxted Lodge*. It is ſurrounded by a park, and ſtands upon an eminence which commands an agreeable proſpect of the neighbouring country.——Charles Buxton, Eſq; has alſo a good houſe in the ſame pariſh, with ſpacious gardens well watered.

Kelvedon is four miles from Witham, and about a mile from the former is *Fælix Hall*, the ſeat of Daniel Matthews, Eſq. It is a handſome edifice, ſituated on an eminence, and around it is a ſmall park. The gardens are laid out with elegance, and have in them green-houſes, and hot-houſes, and every other requiſite to render them uſeful as well as pleaſing.

COGGESHALL.

This is a market-town in Eſſex, about ſeven miles from Witham, and forty-four from London. It ſtands partly on the declivity of a hill, and is pleaſantly ſituated; and is pretty

Felix Hall in Essex the Seat of Dan.l Matthews Esq.r

pretty large and populous. Here is a market on Thurſday for corn, and an annual fair on Whitſun Tueſday. The church is a ſpacious and lofty edifice, and ſtands pleaſantly at the upper end of the town, having a good proſpect ſouthward.

Hereabouts have been found the remains of ſome antient little Roman ſtation, or villa, adjoining to the road which leads to the town. An arched vault of brick was diſcovered, and in it a burning lamp of glaſs, covered with a Roman tile, about fourteen inches ſquare, and an urn with aſhes and bones, and other antiquities.—Oſgood Hanbury, Eſq; has a good ſeat, with a park, near this town, known by the name of *Oldfield Grange*.

An Abbey was founded at Coggeſhall, in the year 1142, by King Stephen, and his Queen Maud, for Ciſtercian or White Monks, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The remains of the abbey ſtands within the precincts of Little Coggeſhall, near the river: it was a Gothic edifice, but is now moſtly demoliſhed.

In the pariſh of *Markſhall*, which is two miles from Coggeſhall, General Honeywood, who is Lord of the Manor, has a fine ſeat. It is an handſome edifice, pleaſantly ſituated near the church, on a riſing ground. The gardens, park, and fiſh-ponds, contribute to make it a very pleaſant retirement. In the dining-room is an original painting of Mrs. Mary Waters, or Honeywood, in a widow's habit. This memorable perſon was born at Lenham, in Kent, and is ſaid to have continued forty-four years a widow, and then arriving at the age of ninety-three, ſaw 367 children lawfully deſcended from her, 16 of her own body. 114 grand-children, 228 in the third generation, and nine in the fourth.

BRAINTREE.

This town is about ſix miles from Coggeſhall, and forty from London; and is a great thoroughfare from London into Suffolk and Norfolk. The buildings are moſtly old, and of timber; but ſomewhat improved of late by a few new ones of brick and plaiſter. Here is a market every Wedneſday, well ſupplied with all kinds of neceſſaries, and at which vaſt quantities of corn, malt, and hops, are ſold by ſample. Two fairs are held here annually; one on the ſecond of October, which holds three days; and the other on the eighth of May, which

laſts the ſame time; the principal traffic of which is live cattle, butter, and cheeſe.

In the pariſh of *Black Notley*, which is at a little diſtance from Braintree, there is a handſome monument in the church-yard, in memory of that celebrated naturaliſt, Mr. John Ray, which was erected at the expence of Henry Compton, Biſhop of London. Mr. Ray was born at Black Notley, being the ſon of a blackſmith there, and was alſo interred there in 1706.

B O C K I N G.

This is one of the moſt conſiderable villages in the county of Eſſex: it conſiſts chiefly of one ſtreet, in which the baize-trade is carried on to a very great amount. The church is a ſpacious building, ſituated upon an eminence. Here is alſo a large meeting-houſe, and another belonging to the Quakers.——An urn of old coins, moſtly Veſpaſion's, was ſome time ſince found in the grounds belonging to High Garret, in this pariſh.

In the pariſh of *Gorsfield*, Lord Clare has a very handſome ſeat, known by the name of GORSFIELD HALL. It is ſituated at a ſmall diſtance from the church, and is ſurrounded by an extenſive park, and has alſo elegant gardens.

D U N M O W.

This is a very antient town, ſituated pleaſantly on a hill, at the diſtance of thirty-ſeven miles from London. The trade of this place is inconſiderable, but a manufacture of bays and blankets is carried on here. In the center of the town ſtands what is called the market-croſs, which is a very antient edifice: and over againſt this is the guildhall, in which the town officers meet to tranſact the corporation-buſineſs. The market is on Saturday, and here are two fairs held, for toys only, one of which is on the ſixth of May, and the other on the eighth of November. The church ſtands near a mile north from the main ſtreet, in a bottom, and is a large neat building.

In the pariſh of *Little Dunmow*, which is two miles from the town of Dunmow, there was formerly a priory. It ſtood in a delightful ſituation, but is now entirely decayed. In this priory were maintained a prior, and ten or eleven canons regular, of the order of St. Auguſtine.——Amongſt the



Gosfield Hall the Seat of the Right Hon.ble Lord Viscount Clare.

the jocular tenures of England, none have been more talked of than the BACON of DUNMOW. It does not appear who inſtituted this cuſtom, but it is generally ſuppoſed to be one of the family of Fitzwalter. The prior and canons were obliged to deliver the bacon to the perſon who took the following oath.

'You ſhall ſwear, by cuſtom of confeſſion,
'That you ne'er made nuptial tranſgreſſion;
'Nor ſince you were married Man and Wife,
'By houſhold brawls or contentious ſtrife,
'Or otherwiſe, in bed or at board,
'Offended each other in deed or word;
'Or ſince the pariſh clerk ſaid Amen,
'Wiſhed yourſelves unmarried agen;
'Or in a twelvemonth and a day
'Repented not in thought any way,
'But continued true in thought and deſire
'As when you joined hands in holy quire;
'If to theſe conditions without all fear
'Of your own accord you will freely ſwear,
'A whole Gammon of Bacon you ſhall receive
'And bear it hence with love and good leave.
'For this is our cuſtom at Dunmow well known,
'Though the pleaſure be ours, the bacon's your own.'

After this oath was taken, the claimant of the bacon was taken in a chair provided for the purpoſe, and ſtill kept in the church, and carried firſt about the priory church-yard, and after through the town, with all the priory brethren, his bacon being borne before him, and the town's people attending with ſhouts and acclamations; and in this manner he was conveyed home.

In the chartulary or regiſter-book of this priory, now preſerved in the *Britiſh Muſeum*, there are entries and memorandums of perſons who have at ſeveral times received the bacon; namely, Richard Wright, of Badeburgh, near Norwich, yeoman, in 1445. Samuel Fuller, of Little Eaſton, husbandman, in 1467. Thomas Fuller, of Coggeſhall, in 1510.

Since the ſuppreſſion of the priory this cuſtom is ſtill kept up, and the ceremony is performed at a court baron for this manor by the ſteward, of which the following are inſtances:—'At a court-baron of Sir Thomas May, Knight,

'held 7 June, 1701, before Thomas Wheeler, gent. ſteward, the homage being *five fair ladies*, ſpinſters, namely, Elizabeth Beaumont, Henrietta Beaumont, Annabella Beaumont, Jane Beaumont, and Mary Wheeler; they found that John Reynolds, of Hatfield Broad Oak, gent. and Anne his wife, and William Parſley, of Great Eaſton, butcher, and his wife Jane, by means of their *quiet* and *peaceable*, *tender* and *loving* cohabitation for the ſpace of three years laſt paſt and upwards, were fit and qualified perſons to be admitted by the court to receive the ancient and accuſtomed oath, whereby to entitle themſelves to have the Bacon of Dunmow delivered to them according to the cuſtom of the manor. Accordingly having taken the oath, kneeling on the two great ſtones near the church door, the bacon was delivered to each couple.'——The laſt who received it were John Shakeſhanks, wool comber, and Anne his wife, of Wethersfield, on the twentieth of June, 1751.

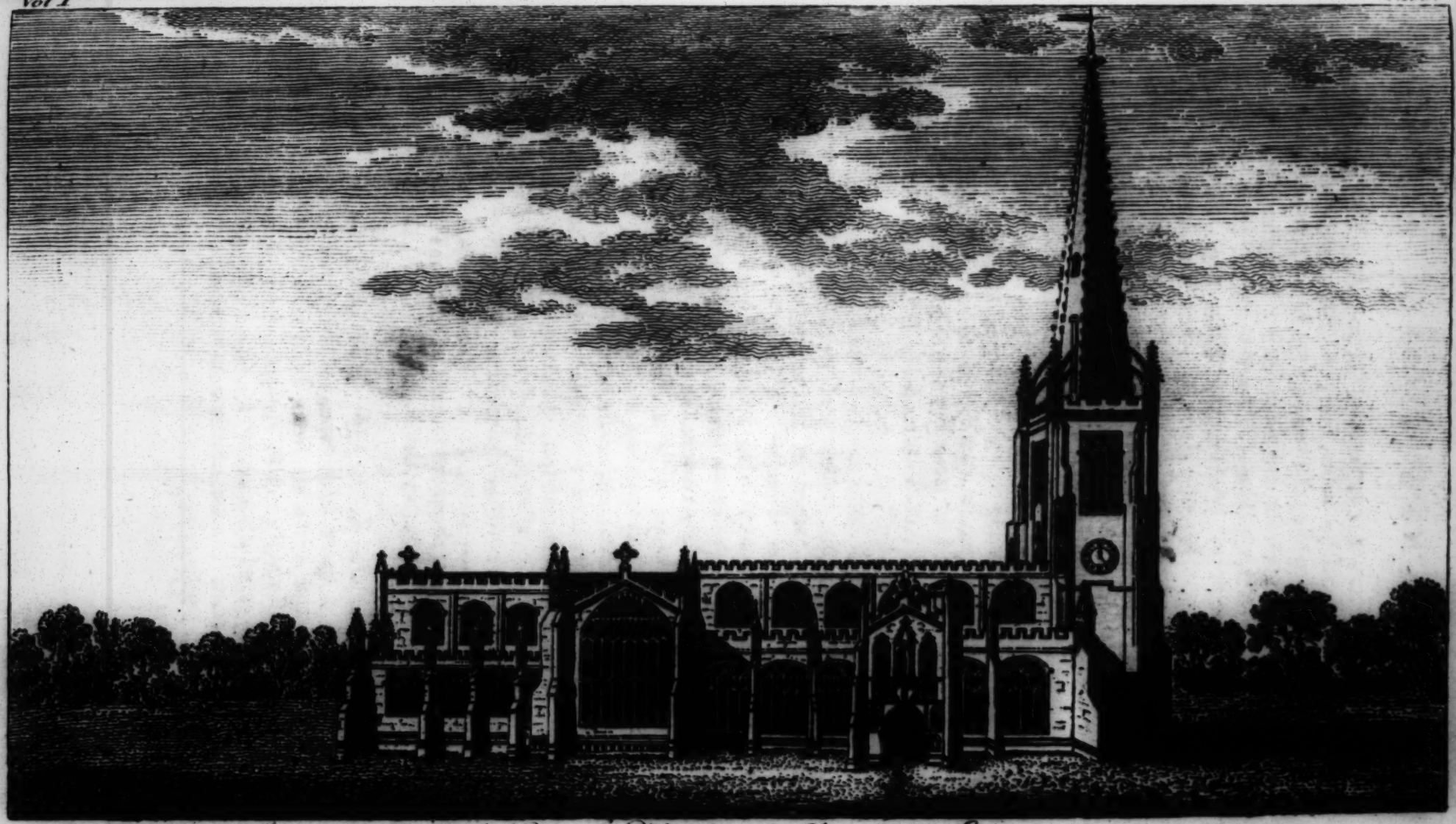
THAXTED

Is an ancient town in Eſſex, ſix miles from Dunmow, and forty-two from London. There is but little trade in this place; but here are two fairs annually, one held on the 10th of Auguſt and the other on the Sunday after the Aſcenſion. This town is chiefly remarkable for its church, which is the fineſt in the county. It is a noble Gothic building; and the length of it is an hundred and eighty-three feet, and the breadth eighty-ſeven feet, in the inſide, excluſive of the thickneſs of the walls, and the projection of the buttreſſes. It is three hundred forty-five feet in circumference. It is built cathedral-wiſe, with a croſs iſle; and conſiſts of a ſpacious and lofty body with north and ſouth iſles. At the weſt end ſtands a noble tower, and ſpire, all of free-ſtone, the perpendicular height of which, from the ſummit of the vane to the ground-floor, is ſixty yards, and one foot.

SAFFRON WALDEN.

This is a large and populous town, ſeven miles from Thaxted, and forty-two from London. The neighbouring fields were formerly chiefly appropriated to the cultivation of ſaffron, from which circumſtance it derived part of its name; but that plant is now chiefly cultivated more weſtward, in

and



A View of Thacksted Church in Essex.

and about the confines of Cambridgeſhire. Saffron is ſaid to have been firſt brought into Eſſex in the reign of King Edward III. and Eſſex and Cambridgeſhire ſaffron is accounted the beſt in the world. There is a great deal of the malting buſineſs carried on at Saffron Walden; here is likewiſe a manufacture for bolting cloths, and for checks and fuſtians. Many of the poor are employed in the making of ſacks, and in ſpinning of fine yarn, for the manufactories in Norwich. Many of the inhabitants are Diſſenters, who have a meeting-houſe for the Independents, another for the Baptiſts, and a third for the Quakers. It has a large market weekly on Saturday, and two fairs annually; one on the Sunday in Mid-lent, for horſes, &c. and the other on the firſt of November, for cows, &c.—The church is an ancient and ſtately ſtructure, ſituated nearly in the center of the town. On the ſouth ſide of the chancel are ſteps which lead to a vault, the burial place of the Suffolk family. The remains of ſix Earls of Suffolk are depoſited here, and of others of the ſame noble family. And under the ſouth arch of the chancel is an elegant altar monument, erected to the memory of Lord Audley, High Chancellor of England, in the reign of King Henry the Eighth.

There was a priory founded here in 1136, by Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Eſſex; and in the year 1190, it was converted into an abbey. The ſcite of it was near the great pond by the bowling green at Saffron Walden, where foundations and bones have been dug up.

About a mile ſouth of Saffron Walden is AUDLEY HOUSE, or as it is more frequently called, AUDLEY END, which is at preſent the ſeat of Sir John Griffin Griffin, who is Colonel of the thirty-third regiment of foot, and a Lieutenant-General. It was built by Thomas Lord Audley of Walden, who was created Earl of Suffolk by King James the Firſt, to whom he was Treaſurer. The Earl deſigned it as a Palace for his Majeſty, and when it was finiſhed preſented it to him; but the King, when he ſaw its vaſt extent and magnificence, ſaid that "it would ſuit very well a Lord Treaſurer, but was too "much for a King." It remained therefore in the poſſeſſion of the Earls of Suffolk during that and the ſucceeding reign, but it was afterwards purchaſed by King Charles the Second; who, not being able to pay for it, mortgaged the hearth tax to the then Earls, as a ſecurity for the money. This tax was taken off ſoon after the Revolution, but the ſtate not being

then in a condition to pay the money for which it had been pledged, the houſe was granted back again to the family. It was then the largeſt royal palace in the kingdom; the expence of building it is ſaid to have amounted to ninety thouſand pounds. The mere model of it in wood is ſaid to have coſt five hundred pounds. It conſiſted of two courts, one of which, and part of the other, including a gallery 226 feet long, 32 wide, and 24 high, were taken down by Henry Earl of Suffolk between ſixty and ſeventy years ago. The part of it which is now remaining is only a fourth of its original extent. Before the weſt front of it are many lawns, riſing to the view, and watered by the river Cam, cut in the form of a fine canal, over which are two elegant bridges. The eaſt front commands an extenſive park, walled in, and a view of the church and town of Saffron Walden. The ſouth ſide looks into a curious piece of clumped pleaſure ground, called the Mount Garden; and the north into a lawn, ſeveral plantations, and a neighbouring village.

At *Aſhdon*, about three miles north-weſt of Saffron Walden, there are four barrows, or pyramidical hills, which were erected by Canute the Dane, over the bodies of thoſe who were killed in a battle which was fought here, and in which Canute totally defeated the army of Edmund Ironſide, and took moſt of the nobility who attended him priſoners. One of theſe hills being dug into or opened, there were found, in a ſtone coffin, two bodies, one of which lay with his head towards the other's feet; alſo two other ſtone coffins were found with pieces of bones in them, and many chains of iron, about the ſize of thoſe belonging to horſes bits.

At *Cheſterford*, a village four miles north of Saffron Walden, ſome years ago the ruins of a Roman city were diſcovered; the foundation of the walls take in a compaſs of about fifty acres; and the foundations of a Roman temple were not long ſince very viſible.

In the pariſh of *Hadſtock*, which joins to that of Aſhdon, is a very antient church, the north door of which is much adorned with thick bars of iron work, of an irregular form, underneath which is a ſort of a ſkin, ſaid to be that of a Daniſh King: it is nailed on with large nails.

There is a tradition about the church door of Copford pariſh, which is about five miles from Colcheſter, of which Mr. Newcourt gives us the following account. He ſays,

it



A View of the Hills near Ashdon, in Essex, raised over ye bodies of those slain in a Battle fought there.

it was 'taken notice of in the year 1690, when an old man 'at Colcheſter hearing Copford mentioned, ſaid, that in his 'young time, he heard his maſter ſay, that he had read in 'an old hiſtory, that the church of Copford was robbed by 'the Danes, and their ſkins nailed to the doors; upon which, 'ſome gentlemen being curious, went thither, and found a 'ſort of tanned ſkin, thicker than parchment, which is ſup-'poſed to be human ſkin, nailed to the door of the ſaid church, 'underneath the ſaid iron-work, ſome of which ſkin is ſtill to 'be ſeen.'

CASTLE HEDINGHAM.

This place, which is about forty-eight miles from London, was the caſtle and chief ſeat of the noble family of De Vere, Earls of Oxford, on which account the appellation of caſtle is prefixed to it. The greater part of the caſtle is demoliſhed; but the remaining tower is one hundred and ten feet, from the ground to the top of the four-ſquare turrets at the corners. It is ſaid there were three other towers, and in its perfect ſtate this caſtle appears to have been very lofty and magnificent.

Queen Maud, wife of King Stephen, died in this caſtle. It was reckoned a place of great ſtrength before the invention of gunpowder. It held out ſome time againſt King John, in 1215; and againſt the Dauphin Lewis, who had been invited over by ſome of the Barons in 1217.—It was at this caſtle that King Henry the Seventh, whoſe avaricious character is well known, made John De Vere, Earl of Oxford, pay ſo extravagantly for having had the honour of entertaining him. The King having been feaſted in a very ſumptuous manner by the Earl, at his going away the Earl's ſervants and tenants ſtood in their livery coats, with cognizances, ranged on both ſides, and made the King a lane to paſs through them. Upon this Henry called the Earl to him, and ſaid, "My Lord, I have "heard much of your hoſpitality, but I ſee it is greater than "the ſpeech. Theſe handſome gentlemen and yeomen, which "I ſee on both ſides of me, are ſure your menial ſervants." The Earl ſmiled and ſaid, "It may pleaſe your Grace, "that were not for mine eaſe. They are moſt of them my "retainers, who are come to do me ſervice at ſuch a time as "this, and chiefly to ſee your Grace." The King ſtarted a little, and ſaid, "By my faith, my Lord, I thank you for my "good cheer, but I may not endure to have my laws broken

"in

"in my ſight. My attorney muſt ſpeak with you." And accordingly the King obliged him to pay a fine of fifteen thouſand marks, for a breach of the ſtatute againſt retainers.

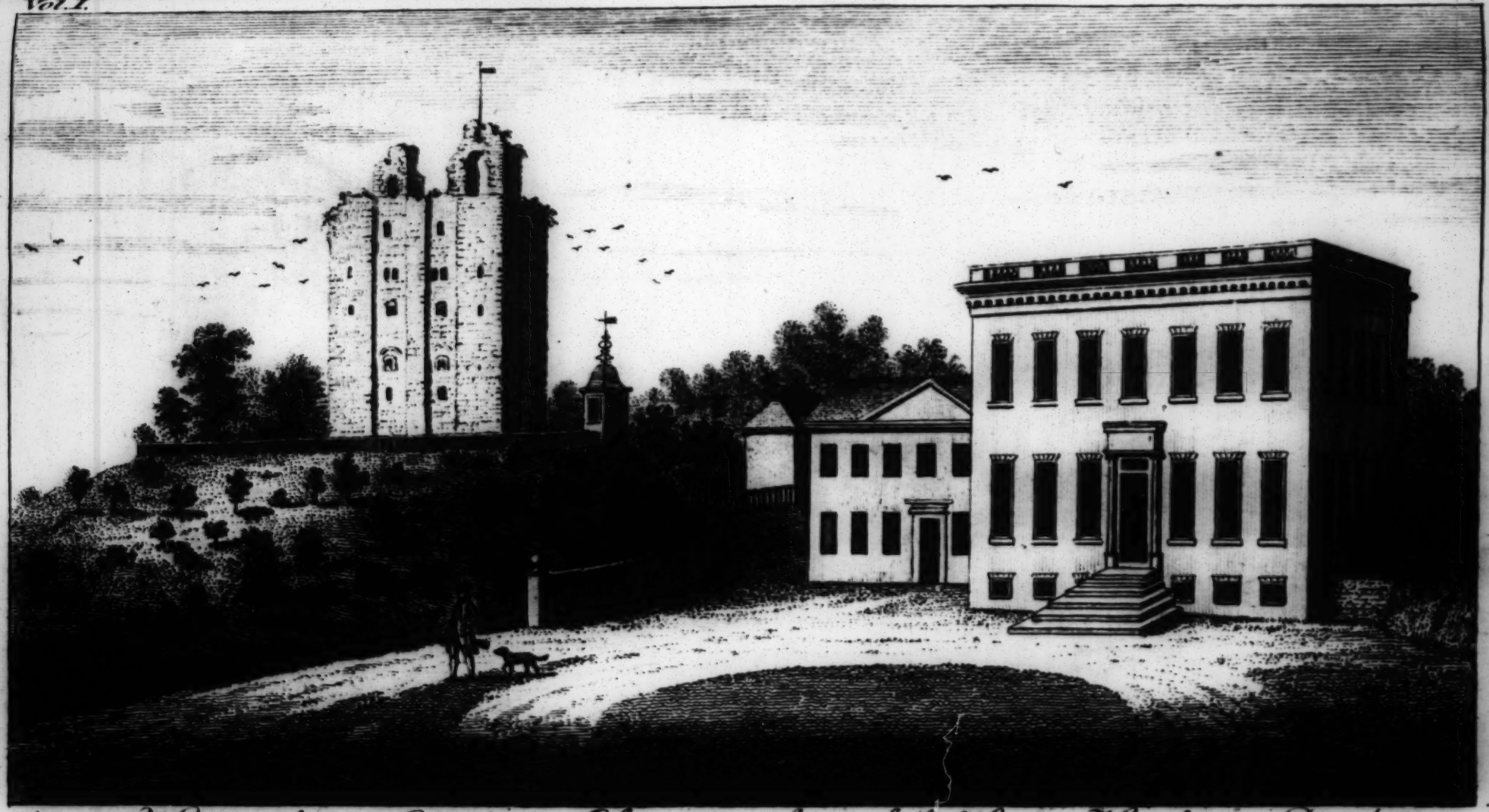
Hedingham Caſtle is now the property of Sir Harry Hoghton, Bart. who lately diſtinguiſhed himſelf ſo honourably in the Houſe of Commons, in the promotion of religious liberty; and who has a handſome modern edifice here, in which he occaſionally reſides. The village is a neat and healthy place, and there are three fairs held here, one on the 3d of May, another on the 23d of July, and the third on the 6th of December.—Sir Harry Hoghton has erected a ſtrong bridge of brick here, conſiſting of three arches, at his own expence.

A religious houſe was founded in this pariſh, for black-veiled nuns, of the Benedictine order, by Alberic de Vere, the firſt Earl of Oxford. The nunnery-houſe is ſtill in being, but converted into a farm-houſe, and moſt of the church or chapel belonging to it, is ſtill ſtanding.

In the middle of the chancel of Caſtle Hedingham church, is an handſome and curious marble tomb, containing the remains of John de Vere, the fifth Earl of Oxford of that name. There are alſo ſome other handſome monuments in the church.—There is a meeting-houſe in this pariſh, and Peter Muilman, Eſq; has a good ſeat here, known by the name of *Kirby Hall*.

The pariſh of *Hedingham Sible* joins to this, and in the wall of the ſouth iſle of the church there, is part of a ſuperb arch, which formerly contained a magnificent monument in memory of Sir John Hawkwood, who was a very remarkable perſon, and who was born here. He was the ſon of Gilbert Hawkwood, a tanner of this place; and was bound apprentice to a taylor in the city of London, where being preſſed into the ſervice of King Edward the Third, then about to make war in France, he behaved himſelf ſo gallantly, that he was firſt made a Captain, and then Knighted by that Prince. When the French war was at an end, he offered his ſervice to the ſtates of Florence, in which he ſignalized himſelf ſo much, that Barnaby Galeazo, Duke of Milan, gave him his daughter Domnia to wife, by whom he had a ſon, who was born in Italy, but naturalized and Knighted in England, in the reign of Henry IV.—Sir John Hawkwood died in a very advanced age in 1394, and was buried in the cathedral church of Santa Maria

Florida



Hedingham Castle in Essex, the Seat of Sr. Harry Hoghton Bart.



Kirby Hall in Essex, the Seat of Peter Muilman Esq.r



Rumer Hall the seat of [illegible]



A View of Auberies, the Seat of Rob.t Andrews Esq.r in Essex

Florida at Florence, where that republic, out of gratitude to his memory and extraordinary deſerts, have honoured him with a ſtatue on horſeback, and a noble monument.—A manor in the pariſh of Sible Hedingham, called *Hawkſwood's* manor, derives its name from this eminent man.

In the pariſh of *Bulmer*, which is at a ſmall diſtance, Robert Andrews, Eſq; has an handſome ſeat, known by the name of AUBERIES. It is a modern, regular, and uniform brick building, and is ſituated upon an eminence, which commands a delightful proſpect of the borough of Sudbury, and of ſome part of Cambridgeſhire. It is adorned with gardens laid out in a pleaſing taſte, and has ſeveral ponds belonging to it, well ſtocked with fiſh.

HALSTEAD.

This is a pleaſant and healthy town in Eſſex, at the diſtance of forty-ſeven miles from London, ſituated on the ſide of a hill, the foot of which is watered by the river Colne. There are many hops produced here, for the excellency of which this town is famous; and a manufactory for bays is eſtabliſhed here. A market is held every Friday, and two fairs annually, one on the 6th of May, and the other on the 29th of October, for cattle, hops, and toys. Here is a grammar-ſchool, which was founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

In the pariſh of *Great Mapleſtead*, which is about three miles from Halſtead, Henry Sperling, Eſq; has an handſome ſeat, known by the name of DYNES HALL. The houſe is an handſome edifice, a mile ſouth of the church, and ſituated upon an eminence, commanding a beautiful proſpect. The gardens belonging to it are elegant.

COLCHESTER.

This is a very ancient town, in the north-eaſt part of the county of Eſſex, at the diſtance of about fifty-one miles from London. It ſtands upon the north ſide of a fine eminence, riſing gradually from the river Colne, which waters the north and eaſt ſides. It is the moſt conſiderable town in the county, and is governed by a mayor, high-ſteward, recorder, eleven aldermen, eighteen common council-men, and other corporation officers. It was laſt incorporated by King William the Third, and is a liberty of itſelf, having four wards and ſixteen pariſhes, eight of which are within the walls, and eight without. It is a populous place, and is

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about three miles in circumference; the ſtreets are ſpacious, and though not in general remarkably well built, yet there are a great many good houſes in it, beſides the guild-hall, adjoining to which is the town-gaol, and a hall called Dutch-baize-hall, belonging to a corporation for the ſupport of the bays and ſay manufactures, both which are fine buildings. Here are ten pariſh churches, and three meeting-houſes, of which one is for the Quakers. Here are two charity-ſchools, one for ſeventy boys, and the other for fifty boys and girls, a work-houſe, and two free grammar-ſchools; and there are three bridges upon the river Colne, which was made navigable by act of parliament for ſmall craft up to a long ſtreet next the water-ſide, called the Hithe, where there is a quay, and for ſhips of large burthen, to a place called the Wyvenhoe, within three miles of the town, where there is a cuſtom-houſe.

Colcheſter had formerly the greateſt manufactory of bays and ſays of any in England; but that trade has of late years conſiderably declined here. This place is alſo remarkable for candying eringo roots, but much more for its oyſters, for which it is particularly famous. They are taken near the mouth of the Colne, upon ſands called the Spitts, and are carried up to the Wyvenhoe, where they are laid in beds or pits on the ſhore to feed; after they have continued in theſe pits ſome time, they are barrelled and brought to Colcheſter, from whence they are ſent in great quantities to London and other places. Such ſhoals of ſprats are caught here, and conſumed by the woollen manufacturers, that the common name for this fiſh is the weavers beef of Colcheſter.

This town has ſent members to parliament from the 23d of Edward I. to the preſent time; and upwards of fifteen hundred perſons are entitled to votes here. There are three market-days in every week in this town, viz. on Wedneſday, Friday, and Saturday; and here are five fairs held, one on the ſecond Tueſday in April, another on the 5th of July, another on the 23d of July, another on the 2d of Auguſt, and the laſt on the 20th of October.

Colcheſter is ſuppoſed by ſome to be the ancient *Camulodunum*; and it has been obſerved, that there are a greater quantity of Roman remains here than in any other part of Britain; vaſt quantities of Roman bricks and tiles being to be ſeen incorporated, and which are indeed the principal ingredients in all the moſt antient edifices; the town wall, the caſtle, and the churches being half built with them. The *Suppellex Romana*

of

of all kinds ſtill abounds, ſcarcely any places being dug up without diſcovering urns, vaſes, and *poterie*, of all ſorts, or at leaſt fragments; among which is a great deal of the fine glazed and red ware, reſembling the moſt beautiful of that which comes from China. Lamps, rings, intaglias, ſtyles, chains, and ſepulchral urns, with the aſhes therein, are likewiſe frequently found. A remarkable urn in particular was taken up a few years ago; it contained twenty gallons, having in it another of two gallons, with the aſhes, as is ſuppoſed, of a Roman lady, becauſe there were alſo with it two bottles of clay for incenſe, two clay lamps, one metal veſſel for ointment, and a ſpeculum of poliſhed metal, anciently uſed for a looking-glaſs. And there are here a great number of Moſaic or teſſelated pavements, about three feet under ground, having black, white, red, and yellow teſſeræ, and looking like a beautiful carpet. Some of theſe are preſerved, being incloſed and covered. But as to Roman coins and medals, it is ſaid that even buſhels have been found in and about this town, and amongſt them many gold ones.—The walls of this town are ſtill ſtanding, but very much decayed in ſome places, particularly on the north ſide. Where the walls remain perfect, it is faced either with Roman brick, or ſquare ſtones, about ſeven or eight inches in diameter.

Colcheſter-caſtle ſtands on the north ſide of what is called the High-ſtreet, and is a ſquare of about two hundred and twenty-four yards in circumference on the outſide. The whole building is a mixture of ſtone and Roman bricks; but moſt of the Roman bricks are in broken pieces, taken from the ruins of more ancient edifices formerly ſtanding in the town. The corners of the walls, and ſides of doors and windows, are of free ſtone.—In 1631, Dr. Harſnet, archbiſhop of York, gave to the town of Colcheſter all his library of books, and they are depoſited in the caſtle. Several additions have ſince been made to this library; and a very capital addition of valuable books would have been made to it by the late Biſhop Compton; but the love of learning was then ſo prevalent at Colcheſter, that the Biſhop's benefaction was neglected, in order *to ſave the expence of carriage!*

D E D H A M

Is ſituated ſeven miles from Colcheſter. This was anciently a famous cloathing-town, ſo early as the reign of King Richard the Second; and the bay-trade extended into it afterwards; but is now greatly on the decline. The town

is tolerably well built, and there are ſome very large houſes in it. Here is a grammar-ſchool, the governors of which were incorporated by a charter granted by Queen Elizabeth; and that princeſs particularly enjoined the parents of the boys who were educated at this ſchool, that they ſhould furniſh their ſons with bows, ſhafts, bracers and gloves, in order to train them to arms.—Dedham church is an handſome and ſpacious building, and the roof of an arch underneath the ſteeple is finely adorned with the arms of the two families of York and Lancaſter, and red and white roſes; and at the eaſt ſide of the battlements there is a ſtatue of Margaret, Counteſs of Richmond, and coronets all round.

MANINGTREE

Is a market-town in Eſſex, at the diſtance of about ſixty miles from London. It is ſituated on the ſouth ſide of the river Stour, and a conſiderable trade is carried on here in deals, coals, iron and corn; and from hence the beſt whitings, and a quantity of other fiſh, are carried to Colcheſter. The market is held here on Thurſday, and here is a fair on the 15th of June.—Richard Rigby, Eſq; has an handſome ſeat near this town, known by the name of MISTLEY HALL, which is pleaſantly ſituated on an eminence. It is adorned with extenſive gardens, and plantations, laid out in much taſte.

At *Miſtley Thorn*, the late Richard Rigby, Eſq; (father of the preſent gentleman of the ſame name, who is well known in the political world) built a village of about thirty brick houſes, convenient for tradeſmen, and well inhabited. He alſo built ſeveral granaries, warehouſes, a large malting office, and made good quays and coal-yards, and there is now a large trade carried on here.—Maningtree church is a neat edifice, and was built at the expence of Mr. Rigby.

HARWICH.

This town is at the diſtance of ſeventy-two miles from London, and is ſituated on a cliff or point of land, at the north eaſt corner of the county of Eſſex. It is bounded on the eaſt by the ſea, and on the north by the mouth of the river Sour, and the haven of Orwell. The waſhing and underming of the tides, and the falling of large pieces of the cliff, have made this point a peninſula, and it is apprehended in a courſe of years, will make it quite an iſland. The town



Mistley Hall, in Essex, the Seat of Richard Rigby, Esq.r

is not large, but well built, and populous. It was formerly walled round, and had four gates; it had alſo a caſtle, and an admiralty houſe. It was firſt made a borough by King Edward the Second, and was afterwards incorporated by King James the Firſt. Between this town and a high hill, called Beacon-hill, not far diſtant, there is a cliff conſiſting of a kind of clay, parts of which are continually falling down into a petrifying water at the bottom, which they imbibe, and being afterwards taken out and dried, they become an impenetrable and durable ſtone, and with this ſtone the town is paved.

The harbour is very ſafe, and ſo ſpacious, that an hundred ſail of men of war, and their tenders, beſides three or four hundred ſail of colliers, have ſometimes been ſeen here at the ſame time. The mouth of the harbour at high water, is near three miles wide, but the channel, by which alone the ſhips can come into the harbour, is deep and narrow, and lies on the Suffolk ſide; ſo that all the ſhips that come in or go out, are commanded by a ſtrong fort, called *Landguard Fort*, which was built by King James the Firſt, on a point of land, ſo ſurrounded by the ſea at high water, that it looks like an iſland, lying about a mile from the ſhore. The town was formerly fortified on the land ſide, but in the reign of King Charles the Firſt, the fortifications were demoliſhed.—There is a guildhall, and a tolerable good exchange at Harwich; and as it is a ſea port, here is a cuſtom-houſe, called the King's-houſe, with a collector, comptroller, land-ſurveyor, tide-ſurveyor, two land-waiters, and four tide-waiters.

For the guidance of veſſels into the harbour, in a room over the chief gate there is a light kept every night with a coal-fire, to which anſwers a light-houſe on the town-green below the cliff, with lamps ſupplied with oil. By means of them ſhips are conducted clear of a ſand called the Andrews, into the rolling grounds, where there is a good anchorage. The ſhorteſt and ſafeſt paſſage between England and Holland being from this port, it brings a conſiderable number of travellers this way, eſpecially in time of war; for whoſe conveniency, and the carrying of the mails, there are four pacquet boats, and in war-time two Dover pacquet boats. King William, and King George I. and II. uſually embarked and landed at this place, in their journies to and from Holland and Hanover.

Here is a good yard for building ſhips, with ſtore-houſes, cranes, launches, and other neceſſaries.—The town-hall and

gaol

gaol were lately pulled down, and rebuilt with brick; and the private buildings and pavement of the ſtreets, are of late years much improved. The fiſhery here is ſo much increaſed of late years, that there are now upwards of ſixty fiſhing ſloops belonging to this town, of about fifty tons burthen. The copperas works, which were formerly carried on here, have been dropped for ſome years, and very little copperas is now picked up here; neither are there many lobſters taken on the ſhore, as formerly. But a number of fiſhing ſloops from hence are employed to fetch lobſters from Norway to London, and other markets, each of them bringing on an average about twelve or fourteen thouſand on a ſingle voyage, and moſt of them making two voyages from hence between February and July. As many, or rather a larger number of veſſels, ſail every winter from hence to the Dogger bank, and there fiſh for Dogger cods, which are very large and much eſteemed. This fiſhery, till within theſe five or ſix years, was not underſtood by our fiſhermen; but they are now become ſo expert therein, that hopes are entertained of eſtabliſhing the turbot-trade here likewiſe, which will be a great ſaving to the nation, as the Dutch carry a great quantity of ready ſpecie from London markets every ſeaſon, for that kind of fiſh.

Part of a Roman caſtra or camp, ſtill remains at Harwich; and here and there are found mutilated parts of a large ſtone pavement, which are ſuppoſed to be a ſufficient proof of its having been a Roman military way; or, in the Saxon ſtile, a Stane-ſtreet. Several coins have been found here; and a teſſelated pavement was alſo diſcovered, and a wall pulled down about twenty years ago, built entirely of Roman materials.—At a Roman caſtle called by Camden, Walton, otherwiſe Felixſtow-caſtle, many fragments of urns, and other antiquities have been dug up. An elephant's tooth was likewiſe found near the remains of this caſtle; and it is ſaid that more of them have been found in Harwich cliff, which were probably buried here by the Romans. Dion Caſſius ſays, that elephants were brought into Britain by Claudius, who landed his army in Kent, and croſſed the Thames with it into Eſſex, where he conquered the natives. This happened A. D. 43. So that theſe teeth are ſuppoſed to have lain in the earth 1700 years.

Harwich church is only a chapel of eaſe to the mother church of Dover-court. It was founded by Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk.—Harwich ſends two members to parliament.—

Here

Here are two fairs held, one on the feaſt of St. Philip and St. James, and the other on the feaſt of St. Luke the Evangeliſt.

Dover-court is a mile diſtant from Harwich. In this pariſh grows ſtrong knotted and crooked elms, famous for their ſeveral uſes in huſbandry, which are ſaid to be very durable, and to wear like iron. Here are two fairs held, one on the 1ſt of May, and another on the 18th of October.

There are three iſlands ſouth-weſt of Harwich, called Pewet, Horſey, and Holmes, which however are ſeparated from the main land only by the winding of a ſtream, and the influx of the ſea into that ſtream. Upon theſe iſlands there is found a ſea-fowl, which, when fat, is very delicious food; ſouth of theſe iſlands there are three villages, which are included within a liberty or lordſhip, anciently called the liberty of the Soke, in which the Sheriff of the county has no power, and in which no writ can be executed but by the bailiff of the liberty, nor by him without the conſent of the lord.

ST. OSYTH.

This is a pariſh in Eſſex, at the diſtance of twelve miles from Colcheſter. It derived its name from the lady Oſgyth, or Oſyth, who was obliged by her father, againſt her will, to marry Sighere, King of the Eaſt Angles. She found means, however, to prevent the marriage being conſummated; and, in the abſence of her huſband, took the veil. He at length conſented to her living in a ſtate of celibacy, and gave her a village which was ſituated at this place, called Chich, or Cice, and permitted her to found here a church, and a nunnery. But Ingua and Hubba, we are told, ſpoiled the nunnery, and cauſed her head to be cut off, at a fountain where ſhe uſed to waſh herſelf with her virgins; ſhe was buried, it is ſaid, before the door of the church erected by herſelf.

Richard de Beauveis, biſhop of London, founded a monaſtery here about the year 1118, for canons of the order of St. Auguſtine. The revenues of this monaſtery were very large, and there are two parks belonging to it. At the diſſolution of the monaſteries, this place was granted to the famous Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Eſſex. It afterwards became the property of Lord Darcy, who converted it into a ſeat for himſelf. Part of it only is ſtanding, yet it is a noble

pile

pile of building, and is now the ſeat of the Earl of Rochford.

M A L D E N

Is a very ancient town in Eſſex, at the diſtance of thirty-ſeven miles from London. It ſtands on an eminence or ſide of a hill, ſouth of Blackwater bay. It conſiſts of one wide ſtreet, extending from weſt to eaſt near a mile, which is croſſed near the top by another. On the weſt ſide of the town are the remains of a camp, through the middle of which is the road to Chelmsford; three ſides of the fortifications are viſible, being a ſquare or oblong, incloſing about twenty-two acres; the reſt is built upon and defaced. The bay here makes a convenient harbour for ſhips, and the merchants carry on a conſiderable trade in coal, iron, deals, and corn. Malden has ſent burgeſſes to parliament from the third year of the reign of Edward III.—The market here is on Saturday, and a fair is held three weeks before Michaelmas, and another on Lady-day, and two days after.

A ſhopkeeper of this town, whoſe name was Edward Bright, was rendered famous by his extraordinary bulk and weight. He is mentioned in the Philoſophical Tranſactions, and prints were publiſhed of him. Another inſtance of ſo vaſt a ſize is ſcarcely to be met with in ancient or modern hiſtory. At the age of 12 years he weighed 144 pounds; at 19 he weighed 336 pounds; about thirteen months before he died, his neat weight was 41 ſtone 10 pounds, or 584 pounds; at the time of his death he was manifeſtly grown bigger ſince his laſt weighing, in that proportion by which he had encreaſed on an average, viz. of about two ſtone a year; ſo that he was nearly 44 ſtone, or 616 pounds neat weight. He meaſured five feet nine inches and an half in height; his body round his cheſt was five feet ſix inches, and round his belly ſix feet eleven inches. His arm in the middle was two feet two inches about, and his leg two feet eight inches. After his death ſeven men were buttoned in his waiſtcoat. He died in 1750, aged twenty-nine. He was an active man till a year or two before his death, when his corpulency ſo overpowered his ſtrength, that his life began to be a burthen to him. He left a widow big with her ſixth child. His coffin was of an enormous ſize, and they were obliged to cut a way through the wall and ſtaircaſe, to let his corpſe down into the ſhop. It was drawn upon a carriage

to



St. Osyth Priory, the Seat of the Earl of Rochford.

to the church, and let down into the vault by the help of a ſlider and pullies.

ROCHFORD

Is a town in Eſſex, at the diſtance of forty miles from London, ſituated on a ſmall ſtream that falls into a river called the Crouch. It gives its name to the hundred in which it lies. The market is on Thurſday, and here are two fairs annually, one on Eaſter Tueſday, and the other on the Wedneſday after Michaelmas day.—At King's-hill, about half a mile north-eaſt of Rochford church, is held what is called the *Lawleſs-court*, a whimſical cuſtom, the origin of which is not known. On the Wedneſday morning next after Michaelmas-day, the tenants are bound to attend, upon the firſt cock-crowing, and to kneel and do their homage, without any kind of light but ſuch as the Heavens will afford. The ſteward of the court calls all ſuch as are bound to appear, with as low a voice as poſſible, giving no notice when he goes to execute his office; however, he that gives not an anſwer is deeply amerced. They are all to whiſper to each other, nor have they any pen and ink, but ſupply that deficiency with a coal; and he that owes ſuit and ſervice, and appears not, forfeits to the Lord of the Manor double his rent every hour he is abſent. A tenant of this manor forfeited, not long ago, his land for non-attendance, but was reſtored to it, the Lord only taking a fine.

At the diſtance of five miles from Rochford, is HADLEY, or HADLEY AD CASTRUM, as it has been ſtiled ever ſince the reign of King Henry the Third, when Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, built a caſtle here. The ruins ſtill extant, ſhew its ancient grandeur. It is near a mile ſouth from the church, and about three quarters of a mile from the road, facing the Channel or Canvey-iſland. It is ſituated on the brow of a ſteep hill, there is from thence a delightful proſpect acroſs the Thames into Kent. It is built of ſtone almoſt of an oval form; the entrance is at the north-weſt corner, between two towers, and there are alſo two towers at the ſouth-eaſt and north-eaſt corners, which are embattled, and have loop holes on the ſides; the walls in the bottom of the towers are nine feet thick, and the reſt five feet; and on the north and ſouth ſides, the walls are ſtrengthened with buttreſſes. The cement or mortar, which is almoſt as hard as the ſtones themſelves, hath in it a mixture of ſhells of ſea-fiſh, &c. At the entrance,

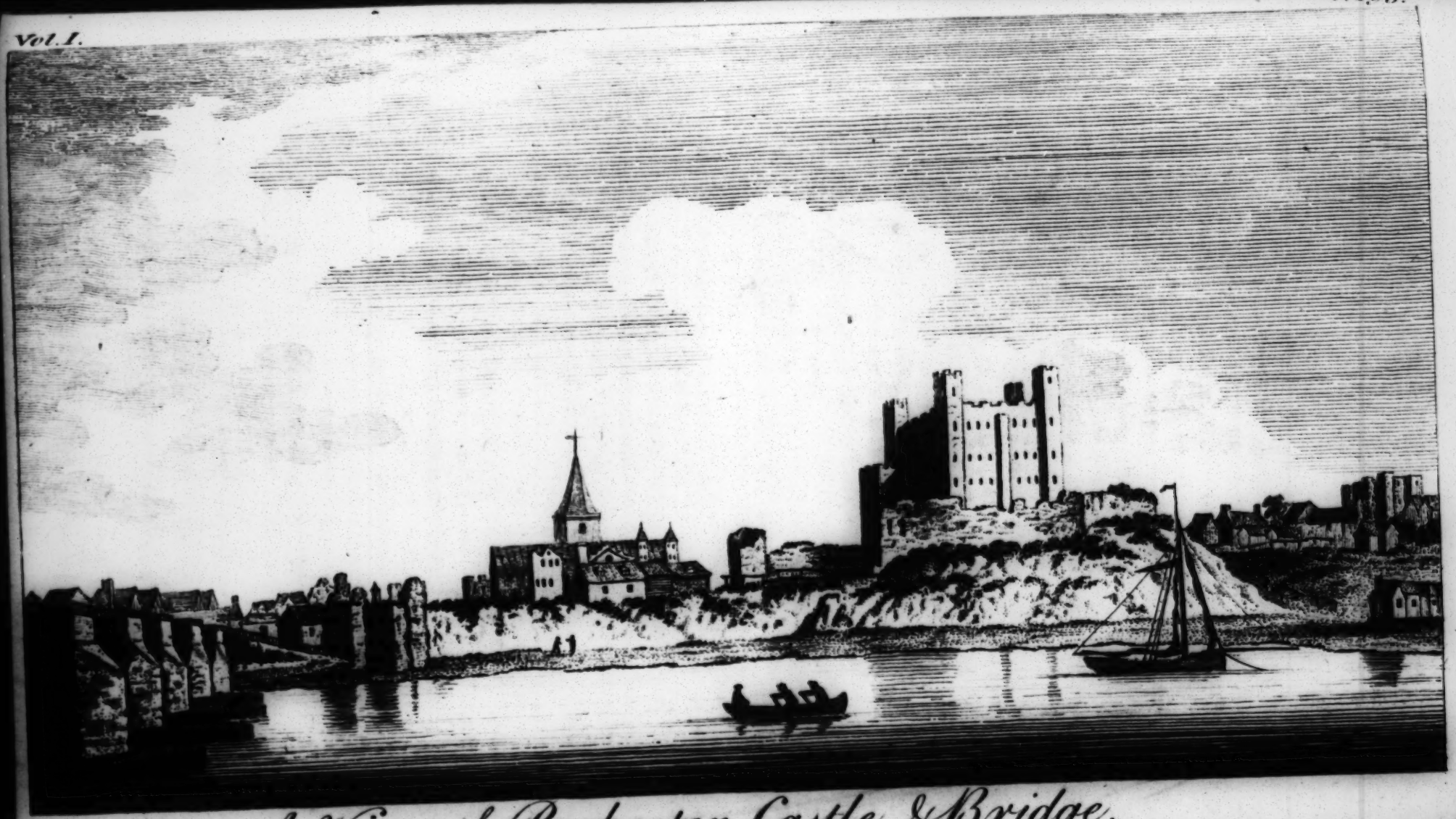
the earth lying very high near the towers, a very deep ditch is cut behind them which runs along the north ſide of the caſtle; the ruins are now greatly over-grown with buſhes.

ROCHESTER.

This is a very ancient city in the county of Kent, at the diſtance of thirty miles from London. It is ſituated on an angle of land formed by the current of the river Medway, which coming from the ſouth runs northward till it has paſſed by the city; and then, turning, proceeds nearly to the eaſt. This city has ſent members to parliament from the earlieſt times, and is the ſee of a Biſhop, and next to Canterbury, the moſt ancient ſee in England. It is but a ſmall city, though it is ſuppoſed to have been walled round before the conqueſt; and great part of the walls ſtill remain. The town is well ſupplied with proviſions of every kind, and with plenty of fiſh from the Medway. The buildings are lately much improved, and in ſeveral parts of the town are ſome agreeable reſidences for ſmall genteel families. On Boley Hill, which is a retired and pleaſant ſituation, is an ancient ſeat, which is the property of Joſeph Brooke, Eſq; wherein Queen Elizabeth was entertained in 1573. Part of the houſe has been new-built by Mr. Brooke. And near to this, on a delightful eminence, is the reſidence of —— Gordon, Eſq; from many parts of whoſe houſe is a pleaſing view of the Medway and the ſurrounding hills. This gentleman is poſſeſſed of a collection of fine paintings, many of them by the firſt maſters in that polite art; particularly two capital drawings of Rubens, viz. the Crucifixion and the Penticoſt.

There are three capital and ſpacious inns in this city, which will vie with moſt in England, as well for their good accommodations, as for their antiquity. Nearly on the ſame ſpot where the Crown now ſtands, has been an inn diſtinguiſhed by that name upwards of four hundred and fifty years, it having been kept by Simon Potyn, the founder of St. Catharine's hoſpital, A. D. 1316. It alſo appears from court rolls, that on the ſame ſpots where the Bull and the King's-head now ſtand, there have been houſes of public entertainment diſtinguiſhed by the ſame ſigns for above three hundred years.—In the neighbourhood of this city are ſeveral very rural and pleaſant walks, particularly on the banks of the Medway.

Rocheſter



A View of Rochester Castle & Bridge.

Rocheſter Caſtle, which is ſuppoſed to have been erected about 700 years, is placed on a ſmall eminence, near the river Medway, juſt above Rocheſter bridge, and conſequently is in the ſouth-weſt angle of the walls of the city. It is nearly of a quadrangular form, having its ſides parallel with the walls of the city. It is about three hundred feet ſquare within the walls, which were ſeven feet in thickneſs, and twenty feet high above the preſent ground, with embraſures. Three ſides of the caſtle were ſurrounded with a deep broad ditch, which is now nearly filled up; on the other ſide runs the Medway. In the angles and ſides of the caſtle were ſeveral ſquare towers, ſome of which are ſtill remaining which were raiſed above the walls, and contained lower and upper apartments, with embraſures on their tops.

But what chiefly attracts the notice of a ſpectator, is the noble tower, which ſtands in the ſouth eaſt angle of this caſtle, and is ſo lofty as to be ſeen diſtinctly at twenty miles diſtance. It is quadrangular in its form, having its ſides parallel with the walls of the caſtle. And from the top of it is a very pleaſing proſpect of the city and adjacent towns, with their public buildings, the dock-yard at Chatham, the meanders of the Medway, and the ſurrounding country.

There is an antient ſtone *Bridge* at Rocheſter, over the Medway, whsch was erected in the reign of Richard II. Sir Robert Knolles is celebrated for being the founder of this bridge. He was diſtinguiſhed both by his courage and military preferments, being raiſed by degrees from the rank of a common ſoldier to that of a General. He attended Edward III. in his ſucceſsful campaigns in France; and when the King's affairs declined by the ill ſtate of health of Edward the Black Prince, Sir Robert was ſent over to the continent with an army of thirty thouſand men. He advanced into the heart of France, and extended his conqueſts as far as the gates of Paris. In this, and many other expeditions, he acquired great riches, and returned to his country laden with wealth and honour.

Lombard ſays, Sir Robert built this bridge with "the "ſpoils of towns, caſtles, churches, monaſteries and cities, "which he burnt and deſtroyed; ſo that the ruins of houſes, "&c. were called Knolles's Mitres."—This bridge, for height and ſtrength, is allowed to be ſuperior to any in England, excepting the bridges at London and Weſtminſter. It is above five hundred and ſixty feet long, and fourteen feet broad, with

a ſtone parapet on each ſide, ſtrongly coped and crowned with an iron balluſtrade. It has eleven arches, ſupported by ſtrong and ſubſtantial piers, which are well ſecured on each ſide with ſterlings. The river has a conſiderable fall through theſe arches.——At the eaſt end, and fronting the paſſage over the bridge, a chapel was originally erected by Sir John Cobham, who gave ſome aſſiſtance to Sir Robert Knolles in building the bridge; but a neat ſtone building has ſince been erected on the place where the chapel ſtood, wherein the perſons to whom the care of the bridge is entruſted, hold their meetings.

A biſhopric was founded at Rocheſter, in the reign of Ethelbert, King of Kent, ſoon after Auguſtine the Monk had landed in the iſle of Thanet, and preached at Canterbury. The firſt church at Rocheſter was finiſhed in the year 604, but this building having ſuffered conſiderably by time and the ravages of foreign enemies, biſhop Gundulph rebuilt the cathedral about the year 1080. It conſiſts of a body and two iſles, one on each ſide; its extent, from the weſt door to the ſtep aſcending to the choir, is fifty yards, and from thence to the eaſt windows at the upper end of the altar, fifty-two yards more, in all one hundred and two yards, or three hundred and ſix feet. At the entrance of the choir is a great croſs iſle, the length of which, from north to ſouth, is one hundred and twenty-two feet. At the upper end of the choir, between the Biſhop's throne and the high altar, is another croſs iſle, which extends from north to ſouth, ninety feet.

The weſt front extends eighty-one feet in breadth; the arch of the great door is doubtleſs the ſame which Gundulph built; and is a moſt curious piece of workmanſhip, every ſtone being engraved with ſome device. It muſt have been very magnificent in its original ſtate, its remaining beauties being ſufficient to excite the attention of the curious; it is ſupported by ſeveral columns on each ſide, two of which are carved into ſtatues repreſenting Gundulph's royal patrons, Henry I. and his Queen Matilda. The capitals of theſe columns, as well as the whole arch, are cut into the figures of various animals and flowers. The key ſtone of the arch ſeems to have been deſigned to repreſent St. Andrew, the apoſtle and tutelar ſaint of the church, ſitting in a niche, with an angel on each ſide, but the head is broke off: under the figure of St. Andrew, are twelve other figures, ſuppoſed to be deſigned for the twelve apoſtles, ſome few

few of which are perfect; but in general the whole arch is much injured by time.

On each ſide of the weſt door is a ſquare tower; that on the north ſide has lately been rebuilt, and has on the centre niche, on the weſt front, a very ancient figure, ſuppoſed to be the ſtatue of Biſhop Gundulph.

A priory was founded at Rocheſter about the year 600. A chapter of ſecular prieſts was firſt placed here, but they were afterwards removed, and Gundulph, biſhop of Rocheſter, already ſpoken of as the builder of the cathedral, eſtabliſhed here ſixty black monks.—There are ſome ruins ſtill remaining of the ancient chapter houſe, which ſhew it to have been a building of elegance, conſidering the age in which it was erected.—A ſkeleton was dug up, in December, 1766, by the workmen employed in digging a new cellar for the deanery of Rocheſter, in an area under the old chapter-houſe, or ſecretarium of the priory. This ſkeleton was full ſeven feet in length, and the ſkull very entire, with fine teeth quite firm in the jaw.

The town-hall of Rocheſter is an handſome brick ſtructure, ſupported by coupled columns of ſtone, in the Doric order. At the upper end of the hall are the original portraits of King William III. and Queen Anne, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. Here are alſo the portraits of Sir Cloudeſley Shovel, Sir John Leake, and other perſons of note, well executed by eminent maſters.—The clock-houſe, which is a neat building, was erected by Sir Cloudeſley Shovel, who repreſented this city in four parliaments.—This city is governed by a mayor, eleven aldermen, and twelve common councilmen.

Sir Joſeph Williamſon, who was one of the plenipotentiaries at the treaties of Nimeguen and of Ryſwick, and who was one of the repreſentatives of this city, founded a mathematical ſchool here. There is alſo a grammar ſchool here, called the King's ſchool, conſiſting of twenty ſcholars on the royal foundation, who have their education free, and each 9s. 4d. per quarter. They wear ſurplices, and with the choriſters, are always obliged to attend divine ſervice at the cathedral. A market is kept in this city on Fridays, and two annual fairs are held here, one on the 30th of May, and the other on the 11th of December.

There is in the river Medway at Rocheſter, and in ſeveral of its creeks and branches within the juriſdiction of the city, an oyſter fiſhery; which is free to every one who has ſerved ſeven years apprenticeſhip to any fiſherman or dredger, who

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is free of the ſaid fiſhery; and the Mayor and citizens of Rocheſter hold a court once a year, or oftner, when occaſion requires it, for the regulation of this fiſhery, and to prevent abuſes in it.

Rocheſter, Stroud, and Chatham, though they are three diſtinct places, yet are ſo contiguous, as to appear in a manner but one city; and theſe three towns form a continued ſtreet, extending above two miles in length. Stroud is ſeparated from Rocheſter only by a bridge. There is an hoſpital here for ſick and lame ſoldiers; and an annual fair is held here on the 26th of Auguſt.

C H A T H A M

Is a ſuburb to Rocheſter, and perhaps the completeſt naval arſenal in the world. It affords a ſight equally noble and pleaſing, to every one who is ſenſible how much the ſafety and proſperity of this nation depends on its maritime ſtrength. It has been brought to its preſent ſtate of perfection by degrees, the dock having been begun by Queen Elizabeth, and continually improved by her ſucceſſors.—This celebrated dock-yard, including the ordnance wharf, is about a mile in length; it is ranged on the ſouth eaſt ſide of tthe river, and is adorned with many elegant buildings, inhabited by the commiſſioner and principal officers belonging to the yard, which well become the opulence of the nation, and the importance of the navy. Here are many neat and commodious offices for tranſacting the buſineſs of the yard; alſo ſpacious ſtorehouſes (one of which is ſix hundred and ſixty feet in length) and work rooms, which, by their amplitude, manifeſt their prodigious contents, and the extenſive works carried on within them; the ſail-loft, in which the ſails are made, is two hundred and nine feet in length; in theſe magazines are depoſited amazing quantities of ſails, rigging, hemp, flax, pitch, tar, roſin, oil, and every ingredient neceſſary for the building and equipping of ſhips; the coils of cordage, and heaps of blocks, with innumerable other articles, are arranged with ſuch order, that on any emergency they may be taken out without the leaſt confuſion. To every apartment proper officers and attendants are aſſigned, for the more expeditious diſpatch of buſineſs, ſo that even a firſt or ſecond rate is often equipped for ſea in a few weeks.

The maſts are carefully depoſited in ſtorehouſes peculiarly adapted for them, one of which, in this yard, is two hundred and thirty-ſix feet in length, and one hundred and twenty

twenty feet wide; ſome of theſe maſts are near one hundred and twenty feet long, and thirty-ſix inches in diameter: there are alſo two ſpacious baſons of water, in which theſe maſts are kept continually floating. The ſmith's ſhop contains twenty-one fires; here the anchors are made, ſome of which weigh near five tons. In an extenſive rope houſe, which is upwards of ſeven hundred feet in length, large quantities of hemp are twiſted into cables one hundred and twenty fathoms long, and ſome of them twenty-two inches round. In this yard are four deep and wide docks, for docking and repairing large ſhips; in one of theſe docks was built the Victory, a firſt rate, the largeſt ſhip in the univerſe, carrying one hundred and ten guns, which is now moored in this river near Gillingham; there are alſo four ſlips and launches, on which new ſhips are conſtantly building.

The ordnance wharf is ſituated to the ſouth of the dock-yard, between Chatham church and the river, and was the original naval yard. The guns belonging to the ſhips in this river are depoſited in long tiers; ſome of theſe guns weigh ſixty-five hundred weight each; large pyramids of ſhot are to be ſeen on different parts of this wharf; there are alſo capacious ſtore-houſes, in which are depoſited prodigious quantities of offenſive weapons, as muſkets, piſtols, cutlaſſes, pikes, poleaxes, &c. &c. The armory is a curious aſſemblage of hoſtile weapons, arranged in admirable order. To defend this large naval magazine, there is a ſtrong garriſon at Sheerneſs, the entrance into the Medway. A fort is alſo erected at Gillingham. For the further ſecurity of this yard, in the beginning of the laſt war, ramparts were thrown up.

That which is called the Cheſt at Chatham, was inſtituted in 1588, the memorable year of the defeat of the Spaniſh Armada; when with the advice of Sir Francis Drake, Sir John Hawkins, and others, the ſeamen in the ſervice of Queen Elizabeth voluntarily aſſigned a portion of each man's pay, to the relief of their wounded fellows; which method being confirmed by the Queen, has been continued ever ſince. Two annual fairs are held at Chatham, one on the 15th of May, and the other on the 19th of September.

About four miles from Rocheſter ſtands the pleaſant village of *Shorne*, the church belonging to which has ſeveral ancient monuments in it, eſpecially of the Cobham family. Near this place

place is Cobham-hall, an ancient and noble ſtructure, the original manſion of the Cobham family, but now the reſidence of the Earl of Darnley. In a large room in this houſe are the arms of Queen Elizabeth, and a memorandum of her having been entertained there by the then proprietor of this ſeat; here is an extenſive park well ſtocked with deer. In Cobham church are ſeveral ancient and curious monuments of the Cobham family. Near the church is a college, founded about the year 1389, by John de Cobham, and ſuppreſſed by Henry VIII. But it was founded anew on a reformed plan, by Sir William Brooke (lord Cobham) A. D. 1597. Twenty poor perſons with their families, are admitted into this college, from the adjacent pariſhes.

On the other ſide of the London road, is the pariſh of *Higham*, where was a nunnery of the Benedictine order. Near this place are the remains of the ancient town of Clive at Hoo, now called Cliff, by many writers ſuppoſed to have been the Cloveſhoe, where ſo many councils were held during the Saxon heptarchy. Not far from Cliff is Cooling caſtle, erected by John, Lord Cobham, about 1380; it being granted to him by Richard II. which grant he cauſed to be cut on a large ſtone, and placed on the front of the caſtle; part of it is ſtill viſible. This caſtle was a place of conſiderable ſtrength, and ſurrounded by a deep moat. Two round towers which formed the entrance, are ſtill ſtanding, as are ſome fragments of towers erected for its defence in different parts of the walls. The pious and intrepid Sir John Oldcaſtle, who in the reign of Henry V. fell a victim to papal cruelty, reſided in this caſtle; part of it is now a farm-houſe, in the occupation of Mr. Comport.

About three miles from Rocheſter, on the road towards London, is *Gad's Hill*, ſuppoſed to have been the ſcene of the robbery mentioned by Shakeſpear in his play of Henry IV. At a ſmall diſtance to the left, appears on an eminence the Hermitage, the ſeat of the late Sir Francis Head, Bart. and cloſe to the road, on a ſmall aſcent, is a neat building lately erected by Mr. Day.

M I L T O N.

This is an ancient town in Kent, about twelve miles from Rocheſter, and forty-two from London. It is in a manner ſituated on the waters of a fine rivulet, at the head of a creek that runs into the Swale, which ſeparates the iſle of Shepey from the main. Antiquity has dignified it by calling it,

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"The royal town of Middleton." When king Alfred divided his kingdom into hundreds and ſhires, Milton was in his poſſeſſion, and therefore was ſo denominated; it was honoured with a royal palace, which was ſituated near where the church at preſent ſtands, about a mile north-eaſt of the town: It was a flouriſhing place until the reign of Edward the Confeſſor; nor do we read of its being injured by the Danes, although it muſt have been viſited by them: in the ſame reign A. D. 1053, Earl Godwin, who had been baniſhed, came hither and burnt the palace and town to aſhes. Milton church is a large handſome building; there was a church in this place very early, for Sexburga, the foundreſs of the nunnery at Minſter in Shepey, is ſaid to have expired in the church porch of Milton, about the year 680. It contains ſeveral ancient monuments of the Norwood family. The town is governed by a portreeve, who is annually choſen on St. James's-day. There is a good oyſter fiſhery in the Swale, belonging to this town: the oyſters are much eſteemed in London. A market was granted by King Edward I. A. D. 1287, and continues on Saturdays. A fair is held on the 24th of May. Within a mile to the eaſt of the church is a large open field or marſh, called Kelmſley-down, derived, it is imagined, from Campſley-down, or the place of camps, becauſe there the Danes under Haſting, in 892, encamped on their arrival from France with eighty ſhips. On the eaſt ſide of the down are the remains of a caſtle, ſaid to have been built at that time by thoſe free-booters; it is now called Caſtle Ruff. All that appears of this fortreſs at preſent, is a ſquare piece of ground ſurrounded by a large moat. On the oppoſite ſide of Milton creek, and about half a mile north of Sittingborn, are the poor remains of Bayford caſtle, ſaid to have been raiſed by the good and vigilant King Alfred, to ſecure the country from the excurſions of the Danes, while they rendezvouſed on Kelmſley downs. The moat and a ſmall part of the eaſt wall are ſtill viſible.

FEVERSHAM

Is forty eight miles from London, and is a town of great antiquity. In a charter of Kenulph, King of Mercia, dated 812, it is called the King's little town, and ſeems to have been a royal reſidence at that time. King Stephen founded an abbey here in 1148, but there are no remains of it, except an inner gate and ſome walls. The church is large and handſome. Feverſham is now in a flouriſhing ſtate, being the chief port for

this part of the country; it is ſituated on a rivulet which falls into the mouth of the Swale, and has an oyſter fiſhery. The dredgers have a peculiar law among them, which obliges a perſon to marry before he can be free of the grounds. The town is an appendage of the town and port of Dover. It is governed by a mayor, jurat, and commonality; has a market on Wedneſdays and Saturdays; and two fairs, one on the twenty-fifth of February, and the other on the twelfth of Auguſt. A large powder manufactory ſubſiſted near this town as early as the time of Queen Elizabeth: it has been lately purchaſed by government. To the north-weſt of the town, on the other ſide of the rivulet, is the chapel of Davington, where was an eminent nunnery. It was founded ſoon after the abbey of Feverſham, in the reign of King Stephen, A. D. 1153. The chapel of this ancient religious houſe is now the pariſh church. To the ſouth of the town, near the road, is the ſmall, but neat church of Preſton, in which are ſome monuments three hundred years old.

At a little diſtance from hence, Lord Sondes has an elegant ſeat, known by the name of LEES COURT. And in this neighbourhood is alſo NASH COURT, the handſome and pleaſant ſeat of the Hawkins's family, with a balluſtraded terrace on its top, fronted with a green park, in which are beautiful plantations.—At Broughton-hill, which is between Feverſham and Canterbury, there is a beautiful proſpect on every ſide from the ſummit, and the high ſteeple of Canterbury cathedral appears directly in the road.

About three miles from hence is the ancient village of *Harbledown*, the church of which is ſituated on an hill weſt of the ſtreet. Oppoſite to the church is the hoſpital and chapel, originally built and endowed by archbiſhop Lanfranc, about the year 1080: it was for the benefit of poor lepers. This was the place that formerly held the precious relick, called St. Thomas Becket's ſlipper, neatly ſet in copper and chryſtal, mentioned by Eraſmus. The numerous pilgrims to the ſhrine of St. Thomas uſed to ſtop here, and kiſs his ſlipper, as a preparation for their more ſolemn approach to his tomb. Since the reformation, this hoſpital is continued for the relief of poor perſons.

CANTERBURY.

This famous and ancient city, the chief of the county of Kent, and the metropolitan ſee of all England, ſtands at the diſtance

diſtance of fifty-ſix miles from London. It is ſituated in a beautiful and fruitful valley, with the river Stour running through it, in two clear and uſeful ſtreams. It is ſuppoſed to have been walled in the time of King Ethelbert, about the year 600; and when the walls were repaired in 1400, they are ſaid to have been nearly two miles in compaſs. There were twenty-one ſmall towers on the walls, and ſeven gates, beſides poſterns. There are now only ſix, and a great part of the wall is in a ruinous ſtate. The *caſtle* is a venerable ſtructure, and was built about the time of the conqueſt. It is ſituated on the ſouth ſide of the city, but is in ruins. Beſides the cathedral, there are ſixteen pariſh churches in this city; the whole of which is divided into ſix wards, which are named after the ſix city gates. Here were alſo a priory, a nunnery, and three religious houſes for the Auguſtine, black, and grey friars. The knights templars had a manſion in this city. It likewiſe contained nine hoſpitals, three of which are diſſolved. Here is a free-ſchool, and three charity ſchools.

The cathedral, called Chriſt's Church, is a fine piece of Gothic architecture; it is ſituated in a ſpacious ſquare towards the eaſt ſide of the city, and is built in the form of a croſs; about five hundred feet long, ſeventy-four broad, excluſive of the croſs iſle, and eighty feet high. From the middle of the building riſes a beautiful tower two hundred and thirty-five feet high, called Bell Harry.—There are many antient monuments in this church, ſome in very good condition; among which are thoſe of Henry the Fourth, and his Queen, built A. D. 1413; and Edward the black prince. There was alſo a famous monaſtery belonging to this cathedral, containing, it is ſaid, one hundred and fifty Benedictines; the cloyſters and chapter houſe belonging to it, are on the north ſide of the church, and are of the ſame age with the body of it. In this chapter room, A. D. 1171, King Henry the Second, either through piety or policy, ſuffered the Monks to ſcourge him, by way of penance, on account of the murder of Thomas Becket. This monaſtery was diſſolved in 1539; and there are now belonging to this cathedral, a dean, archdeacon, twelve prebendaries, ſix preachers, ſix minor canons, twelve lay clerks, ten choriſters, two maſters, fifty ſcholars, and twelve alms men. In the windows of this fabric are ſome fine remains of painted glaſs, and underneath it the French and Wallooon congregation have a church.

This was firſt given by Queen Elizabeth to the Walloons, who fled hither from the Netherlands, to eſcape the Duke of Alva's perſecution; and this congregation has ſince been much encreaſed, by numbers of Proteſtants who were driven from France in the reign of Lewis XIV. Theſe foreign Proteſtants were extremely ſerviceable to Canterbury, by introducing here the art of weaving broad ſilks, which has been brought to great perfection.

The ruins of St. Auguſtine's monaſtery, or abbey, are without Burgate, to the eaſt of the city. The abbey was built by Ethelbert, and given to Auguſtine, and richly endowed by the donations of many Kings and Queens. At the weſt end of the abbey is Ethelbert's tower, which is thought to have been uſed as a belfry and ſteeple, and to have been ſo called from a large bell named from that King. It was built about the year 1047, and is now much decayed. Near the ruins of this abbey, are thoſe of Pancraſs chapel, which was an idol temple, and probably built by the Romans, or ſoon after their time, from the Roman bricks ſtill to be ſeen. Auguſtine conſecrated it for Chriſtian worſhip. This abbey and chapel with its precincts, occupied a large compaſs of ground, which is ſurrounded by a high wall, the two grand entrances into which are ſtill remaining. To the eaſt of this monaſtery is St. Martin's church, famous for its antiquity, it being built by the believing Romans, and rebuilt and uſed by Bertha, Ethelbert's Queen, for Chriſtian worſhip, before Auguſtine came into England; and was the firſt place that miſſionary ſaid maſs in, after his arrival. Bertha is ſaid to have been buried in the porch with her huſband Ethelbert. There are rows of Roman bricks yet to be ſeen in it; it had a biſhop before the conqueſt.

This city was formerly governed by the archbiſhop; the King had a præfect, who poſſeſſed but very little authority. It is now governed by a mayor, recorder, a ſheriff, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four common-council-men. A court is held every Monday in the Guildhall, for civil and criminal cauſes, and every other Thurſday for the government of the city. Here is a market on Wedneſdays and Saturdays, and a fair for toys on the 29th of September.

ISLE OF THANET.

This is in the north-eaſt part of the county of Kent, and lies open to the ſea on the north and eaſt, with the river Wantſam

ſam on the weſt and ſouth. It is about nine miles long, and eight broad, and in general very fertile. The ſmall village of Sarre is the firſt place a traveller comes to in this iſland: this was formerly a large town, endowed with the privileges of the cinque ports, and ſtill belongs to Sandwich; the paſſage into this iſland is at this place, over a narrow ſtream. To the left of the road, and ſix miles from Margate, is the church of St. Nicholas, which is a handſome building, but there are no monuments in it prior to the year 1500. About the ſame diſtance from Margate, to the right of the road, is the ſmall town of Monkton or Monktown, ſo called from its being the property of the Monks, who uſually reſided in this place. There are collegiate ſtalls in the church, and the heads of ſeveral priors in the remains of painted glaſs in the windows. The church has been larger than it now is. Birchington is a member of the town and port of Dover. The church is a neat building, and contains ſeveral antient and modern monuments of the Queke and Criſpe families, who reſided at the ancient manſion in this pariſh, called Quekes or Quex. At this houſe King William III. uſed to reſide, until the winds favoured his embarking for Holland. A room, ſaid to have been the bedchamber of this royal gueſt, is ſtill ſhewn, together with an adjacent incloſure in which his guards encamped. On the right hand, near the marſhes, about four miles from Margate, is the ancient but ſmall town of Minſter. Domneva, daughter of Ercombert, King of Kent, built and founded an abbey at this place, about the year 670, and furniſhed it with vield virgins to the number of ſeventy; herſelf becoming the firſt abbeſs: Mildred, her daughter, ſucceeded her: and ſo far excelled her mother in piety, that ſhe was canonized a ſaint, and the nunnery ever after was called by her name. It was deſtroyed by the Danes about the year 990. Minſter church, which is the moſt ancient in the iſland, is a handſome ſtructure, conſiſting of three iſles: it has eighteen collegiate ſtalls in the choir. On the floor, and in the church porch, are ſeveral flat grave-ſtones, which are very ancient. In the laſt century a pot of Roman ſilver coins was ploughed up near Minſter; the coins were chiefly of Lucius Aurelius Verus. Between Minſter and Margate is Cleve-court, an elegant building belonging to I. Farrer, Eſq. Beyond Minſter are ſome downs, which are much celebrated for affording extenſive and delightful proſpects. Canterbury cathedral, the iſle of Sheppey, the Eſſex ſhore, Dover cliffs, and the town of Sandwich,

may be each diſtinctly diſcerned from this pleaſant ſpot. From theſe downs (as the Monks inform us) ſtarted Domneva's deer, which ran in an irregular courſe, quite acroſs the iſland, in the ancient map of which this tract is marked. King Egbert gave Domneva ſo much ground as the deer would run over at one courſe; which cut off the eaſt end of the iſland, where ſhe built her nunnery. This tract, from the name of her daughter, was called St. Mildred's Lynch, and was a bank of earth thrown up deſcribing the ancient bounds of the two great manors of Monkton and Minſter: and is yet viſible in ſome places.

Eaſt Kent, and the Iſle of Thanet, have long been reckoned the beſt cultivated part of England, and this tract of country has no ſlight pretenſions to that character. The drill huſbandry is very general here, and is carried on in a very complete and judicious manner. The culture of hops throughout Eaſt Kent, is a very important branch of huſbandry; and madder is here cultivated by farmers more than in any other part of the kingdom.

M A R G A T E

Is ſituated on the north-ſide of the iſle of Thanet, within a ſmall bay, in a breach of the cliff, where is a gate to the ſea, from whence it has its name: it is ſeventy-two miles from London, and about ſixteen from Canterbury. In ſummer it is a pleaſant and agreeable ſituation. Its principal ſtreet runs north and ſouth near a mile in length, and terminates at the pier; with a gentle deſcent, by which means the ſtreets are always neat and clean. But what has given Margate ſo great an eclat in the beau monde, is its conveniency for bathing: the ſhore being level and of fine ſand, is extremely well adapted to this purpoſe. On the wharf are ſeveral bathing rooms, where the company reſort to drink the water, and from whence they enter into the machines, which are afterwards drove out two or three hundred yards into the ſea, under the conduct of careful guides. There is a door in the machine, which being opened, they deſcend into the water, by means of a ladder; an umbrella of canvas is let down which conceals them from public view.

Since Margate has been ſo much frequented by the nobility and gentry, many conſiderable additions and improvements have been made to the town. A large new ſquare has been lately erected, conſiſting of very convenient houſes for

for the accommodation of the nobility and gentry who reſort to this place; the ſquare is paved after the ſame manner as the ſtreets in London; in the ſquare is a noble and commodious aſſembly-room, finiſhed with great elegance and taſte; and being eigthy ſeven feet in length, and forty-three in breadth, is ſuppoſed to be the largeſt in England, and commands a delightful proſpect of the ſea. Adjoining to this are very convenient apartments for cards and tea; on the lower floor is a billiard-table, and a large room for public entertainments, with a piazza which extends the whole length of the building; in the upper floor are ranges of bed-chambers. The number of ſubſcribers to theſe rooms have amounted to near a thouſand in a ſeaſon, The amuſements are conducted with great regularity by Mr. Walker, maſter of the ceremonies, who has the happineſs to give general ſatisfaction. In the ſquare is an elegant tavern, now kept by Rumſey, which communicates with the room for public entertainments.

Beſides the tavern in this ſquare, there is another called the New Inn, ſituated on the parade; where are two hot ſalt-water baths, which are ſaid to have a very ſalutary effect. There is alſo a playhouſe here. Proviſions are very plentiful, and great quantities of fiſh are daily caught. In ſhort, here is every requiſite to render this place a genteel and delightful ſummer reſidence.

Two machines ſet out for Canterbury every morning, to meet the coaches from London, and return to Margate the ſame evening. The hoys ſail from Wool-key near the Cuſtom-houſe, London, on Wedneſdays or Thurſdays, and with a weſt-north-weſt wind, ſail to Margate in twelve hours; but when it is unfavourable, may be three days in their paſſage. They go from Margate on Fridays or Saturdays; the fare is half a crown. They bring great quantities of goods from London, for the town and country. As a proof of the ſafety of this paſſage, there has not been a hoy loſt for upwards of one hundred and forty years.

This town is under the ſame juriſdiction as the port of Dover, the mayor being repreſented here by a deputy. Its church is dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt, which was the ancient name of the pariſh. It was formerly a chapel to Minſter church, and ſuppoſed to have been built about the year 1050, and made parochial ſince the year 1290. It contains ſeveral ancient monuments.

At

At a little diſtance from Margate, is a ſeat built by Lord Holland, in imitation of an Italian villa, with a noble portico fronting the ſea. It contains ſeveral elegant apartments, with a variety of marble columns, buſts, vaſes, &c. brought from Italy. His Lordſhip has alſo erected with chalk ſtones ſeveral buildings reſembling Gothic towers, convents, &c. in ruins, and planted ivy round them to encreaſe the deception. Near this ſeat are Hackendown banks, or the field of battle axes, being the place where a fierce battle was fought in the year 854, between the Danes and Anglo-Saxons, which conflict was ſo near the cliff, that many fell into the ſea; and ſome hiſtorians ſay, that both Commanders were ſlain, and the victory doubtful. Here are two barrows or hills of earth, thought to have been the tombs of certain great officers killed in that battle. Theſe barrows were lately opened, and found to contain bodies bent together and thurſt into graves dug out of the chalk, a little below the ſurface, but not above three feet long. Several earthern urns, containing about two or three quarts, were alſo found, in which were aſhes and charcoal, but they would not bear the air. Lord Holland has erected a monument, with an inſcription in the ſtyle of antiquity, to perpetuate this action.

About half a mile to the ſouth of King's gate, is the north Foreland lighthouſe, for the direction of ſhips by night, to ſecure them from the Goodwin ſands, and this head land. It was formerly built of wood, but being burnt down, the preſent ſtrong flint octagon was erected about the beginning of this century; at its top is an iron grate, on which a large coal fire blazes all night: for the ſupport of this light, the owner of every ſhip belonging to Great Britain, that ſails by this Foreland, pays two-pence per ton, and every foreigner four-pence.

SANDWICH

Is one of the Cinque Ports, and is at the diſtance of eight miles from Margate, and ſixty-ſeven from London. The walls of the town, which were made by throwing up the earth, are nearly in the form of a parallelogram, and are about five furlongs in length from eaſt to weſt, and two and a half from north to ſouth; at the foot of which is a wet ditch of conſiderable breadth. They command a pleaſant and extenſive view of the adjacent country. In theſe walls are ſeveral ſemicircular projections which overlook the ditches,

there were alſo ſome pieces of ordnance, which being quite unſerviceable, have been lately removed. The river and quays are on the north ſide of the town. There are ſeveral gates belonging to it, ſome of which are in a ruinous condition.

It appears from the remains of fortifications about this town, that it was anciently a place of great ſtrength; and, before the uſe of cannon, was capable of enduring a vigorous ſiege. Sandwich has been eſteemed the moſt famous of all the ports in England; and is thought, by many reſpectable authors, to have been the landing place generally uſed by the Romans, and inhabitants of the ancient city Rhutupiæ.

In Sandwich are three pariſh churches, St. Clement's, St. Mary's, and St. Peter's. There was formerly a fourth in the ſouth-weſt part of this town, dedicated to St. James, but there are no remains of it at preſent. The church-yard is ſtill incloſed, and is uſed for the interment of ſtrangers. St. Clement's church is in the eaſt part of the town, and ſituated upon higher ground than the reſt. It is a large and ancient ſtructure, and much reſembles the Norman ſtyle of architecture; particularly the tower, which is conſiderably older than the reſt of the building.

There is a good bridge here, which was erected in 1757. It is built with ſtone, having an arch on each ſide, and a paſſage between for the larger veſſels, that uſe this port. The middle arch is of wood, divided into two parts, which are eaſily drawn up or let down. The paſſage over the ſtone part of the bridge is ſecured by a parapet wall on each ſide, and the wooden arch by Chineſe rails. It is a work of conſiderable utility, not only to the inhabitants of Sandwich and the iſle of Thanet, but to the eaſtern part of the county of Kent, and to the public in general.

The ſtreets of Sandwich are narrow and irregular; but there are ſome good houſes, and an handſome ſquare called the fiſh-market, which conſiſts principally of ſhops. Here is alſo another ſquare called the corn-market; and near the weſt ſide of this is the Town-hall, which is a very antient ſtructure.——Sandwich claims juriſdiction over Deal, Ramſgate, Fordwich, Sarre, and Brightlingſea, in Eſſex, which are members of this cinque port. It uſed to furniſh five ſhips compleat for ſervice. This town was anciently incorporated by the name of the barons of the town and port of Sandwich; but at preſent is incorporated by the name of the mayor, ju-

rats, and commonalty. It ſends two members to parliament, who ſtill retain the antient name of barons of the cinque port of Sandwich. The freemen of the cinque ports have the privilege of ſending a certain number of their own members to ſupport the royal canopy at a coronation. Beſides the mayor, there are twelve jurats and twenty-four common council men, a town-clerk, two treaſurers, and other inferior officers.—The trade of this town chiefly conſiſts in coals, fir, timber, deals, &c. with which the country is ſupplied. Here alſo are ſhipped corn, malt, fruit, and ſeeds, for London and other markets. The ſeeds raiſed from this ſoil are in much repute.

Sandwich is for the moſt part ſupplied with water from a narrow ſtream called the Delph, which runs through it. Here is a market on Wedneſdays and Saturdays, and a fair on the 4th of December, which continues two days. The ſhrimps which are caught near this town are remarkably excellent. There are ſeveral good inns in Sandwich, and many wealthy inhabitants. Here is alſo a large and elegant aſſembly-room, which has been built within theſe few years. Since the conſtruction of the bridge, and the reſort to Margate as a bathing-place, the town has been more frequently viſited by ſtrangers; a tour from thence to Sandwich, Deal, Dover, &c. being a pleaſant and agreeable excurſion.

Between Sandwich and Deal is a large tract of land called the Downs, part of which is level, and part mountainous. Here are thoſe remarkable eminences which Mr. Camden ſays, were in his time called Rome's work; now they are known by the name of Sand Hills; commencing near Sandown Caſtle, and ſtretching toward Sandwich, along the ſea ſhore. The ſurface is in general a fine white ſand, or thin covering of heath. On this coaſt it is generally ſuppoſed that Cæſar landed in both his expeditions to Britain. Sandown Caſtle is a regular fortification, erected on the ſhore within a mile of Deal. There is another to the ſouth of the town, called Deal Caſtle, and beyond that is Walmer Caſtle: they were built on this coaſt by Henry VIII. to ſecure it from the hoſtile intentions of his enemies. They are kept in good repair, and are under the government of the Lord Warden of the cinque ports.

About a mile from Sandwich, at a ſmall diſtance from the road which leads to Dover, is the village of Wodenſborough; the church contains memorials of the Paramour and Heyre families.

milies. Near the church is a remarkable eminence, ſuppoſed to have been raiſed by the Saxons as a pedeſtal for their idol Woden, which ſtood upon it, and from which the place derives its name.

In the pariſh of *Walderſhire*, which is ſix miles and an half from Sandwich, the Earl of Guildford has a very elegant and pleaſant ſeat. To the weſt of the houſe is erected a high Belvidere, which commands a beautiful and extenſive view of the country. Oppoſite to Lord Guildford's ſeat, half a mile to the left of the road, are the remains of *Weſt Langdon Abbey*.

D E A L.

This town is about five miles ſouth-weſt of Sandwich, and ſeventy-two from London. It is divided into upper and lower Deal; the former is the moſt ancient, the latter having had its exiſtence from the great increaſe of trade. The trade of the inhabitants chiefly conſiſts in ſupplying the ſhips which rendezvous in the Downs. This town is a member of the port of Sandwich, and is governed by a mayor, and jurats ſubordinate to that town. Here is a market on Wedneſdays and Saturdays, and two fairs annually on the 5th of April, and 10th of October.

D O V E R

Is at the diſtance of ſeventy-one miles from London, and is ſituated on the ſea-ſhore, in the narroweſt part of the channel that divides England from France; the cliffs of Calais on the French coaſt, being only thirty miles diſtant. It is a very agreeable ſea-port, the ſituation being very romantic, at the foot of ſeveral bold hills; and the harbour in the center of the town, quite built round, is ſurrounded by quays, that are very pleaſing to the view. From the caſtle, and the hills near the town on the road to Hythe, are noble views down on the town, the harbour, and the ſhipping; and over the channel, the high lands in France are diſtinctly ſeen.

Dover is a place of great antiquity, and was undoubtedly one of the Roman ports in this country. It was a town of great repute in the time of Edward the Confeſſor, when it was the principal of the cinque ports. It was formerly walled in, having ten or eleven gates; and the walls are ſaid to have been built by the Emperor Severus; but there are now but ſmall re-

mains either of the walls or gates. There were alſo formerly ſeven churches in Dover, but there are now only two.

Dover Caſtle is built on the extremity of the ſtupendous cliffs which form the eaſtern barrier to Dover town and harbour, and is ſo large as to contain thirty-five acres of ground. There has been a fortification on this ſpot ever ſince the Romans poſſeſſed this iſland, and it was of great repute among the Saxon Kings: it was thought a very important object by William the Norman; and through a courſe of ages ſucceeding Kings built new towers, and increaſed its natural ſtrength to ſuch a degree, that in Henry the Third's time it was called the key and barrier of the whole realm. This caſtle contains a curious ſpecimen of ancient fortification, and is well worthy of attention. St. Martin's le Grand is ſaid to have been ſituated here, for the ſervice of the royal palace, which was in the caſtle; here is a tower at the weſt end, which with the church bears evident marks of great antiquity. The bells which were in it were removed to Portſmouth by Sir George Rook. There is a well in this caſtle three hundred and ſixty feet deep, lined to the bottom with free-ſtone. In the caſtle they ſhew two very old keys, and a braſs trumpet, ſaid to have been uſed in the time of Julius Cæſar. Here is a braſs gun, ſuppoſed to be the longeſt in the world, it was preſented to Queen Elizabeth by the States of Utrecht; it carries a ball of fifteen pounds weight, is twenty-two feet long, and is ſaid to throw a ball ſeven miles. It is commonly called Queen Elizabeth's pocket piſtol.

Dover is incorporated by the name of the mayor, jurats, and commonality of the town and port of Dover, and ſends two members to parliament; it has received many favours from different Princes, one of which was the privilege of a licenſed packet-boat to France; on account of the narrowneſs of the channel, it is become the general place of embarkation for that kingdom, and arrival from thence. In the reign of Richard II. the fare from France for a ſingle paſſenger, in ſummer time, was ſettled at ſix-pence, and a ſhilling in winter. A market is kept here on Wedneſdays and Saturdays, and a fair on the 22d of November.

As Dover is one of the *cinque ports*, it may not be improper here to obſerve, that this phraſe is derived from *quinque portus*, *five havens*, that lie over againſt France, and were thus called by way of eminence, on account of their ſuperior importance. Our Kings have thought them worthy a particular regard; and



A View of the Castle & Town of Dover in Kent.

the better to ſecure them againſt invaſions, have granted them a peculiar form of government. They are governed by a keeper, who has the title of Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. They had a particuliar juriſdiction granted them by King John, and ſeveral other privileges which have been confirmed by moſt of his ſucceſſors. Their Warden, who was firſt appointed by William the Conqueror, has the authority of an Admiral among them, and iſſues out writs in his own name. The five original cinque ports, are Dover, Rumney, and Sandwich, in Kent; and Winchelſea and Rye, market-towns, of Suſſex: and to theſe five original ports, there were afterwards added Haſtings and Seaford, two other market-towns of Suſſex; and Hithe in Kent. When the ſervice which was required of the cinque ports towards their preſervation became too burdenſome, each was allowed a certain number of other towns in its neighbourhood, as auxiliaries, that they might bear a part in this public charge. The cinque ports claim the honour of ſupporting the canopy, which at a coronation is borne over the Sovereign, and afterwards to dine at the uppermoſt table on the King's right hand: the canopy, ſtaves, &c. are their fee. Thirty-two barons or inhabitants of the ports uſed to be ſummoned for this purpoſe, whoſe expences were borne by the ports; but at preſent they uſually depute their members of parliament to that office.

Near Dover Caſtle there is a head of land called *South Foreland*, by way of diſtinction from another head or promontory, which forms the north-eaſt point of the Kentiſh ſhore, and is therefore called *North Foreland*. Theſe two points lying at the diſtance of ſix miles from each other, are the two moſt eaſterly in Kent; the coaſt between them is ſheltered by them on the ſouth and north, and by a bank of ſand, running parallel to the ſhore for three leagues together, and at the diſtance of a league and an half from it, called Godwin Sands, on the eaſt. Thus the South Foreland, North Foreland, Godwin Sands, and the Coaſt, form a tolerable good road for ſhips, which is called *the Downs*, and which would otherwiſe be very dangerous, for the Godwin Sands, which are dry at low water, break all the force of the ſea on the eaſt, ſouth, and ſouth-weſt; yet when the wind blows exceſſive hard at ſouth-eaſt, eaſt-by-north, and eaſt-north-eaſt, ſhips are driven from their anchors, and forced

fored aſhore on the Godwin Sands, or ſent into Sandwich bay, or Ramſgate pier, near Sandwich.

North Foreland is a point declared by act of parliament to be the moſt ſouthern part of the port of London, which by the ſame act is extended north in a right line, forming the mouth of the Thames, to the point called the Naſe, on the eaſt of Eſſex. All the towns or harbours between London and theſe places, whether on the Kentiſh or Eſſex ſhore, are called members of the port of London. As ſoon veſſels have paſſed the North Foreland, out of the port of London, or any of its members, they are ſaid to be in the open ſea; if to the North they enter the German Ocean; if to the ſouth, the Britiſh Channel.

BARHAM DOWNS,

Which are about ſixty-two miles from London, are celebrated at preſent for the annual horſe races which are there exhibited. Several villages, and elegant gentlemen's ſeats, are ſituated on the right and left of the Downs; on the right is an eminence, on the left a beautiful vale, in which runs a ſmall branch of the river Stour. On the right is *Denhill Houſe* and gardens, the ſeat of Lady Gray; near which is *Netherſole Houſe*, the manſion of ——— Wincheſter, Eſq; which is ſituated in the ſmall village of Wymlingſwold. To the left of the downs, is the village of Barham, which gives name to this delightful ſpot. The church has in it ſome monument of the Diggs family, who reſided at *Diggs-Court*, in this pariſh.

On Barham Downs is a ſcite of an antient camp, with three ditches round it, which ſome conjecture to be the work of Julius Cæſar, on his ſecond expedition to this iſland. About the year 1212, King John encamped here with an army of ſixty thouſand men, to oppoſe the French, who threatened him with an invaſion. Simon Montford, Earl of Leiceſter, alſo drew up a large army on theſe downs in the reign of Henry III.

Near Beakeſborne, which is about ſixty miles from London, Sir Thomas Pym Hales, member of parliament for the port of Dover, has a fine ſeat, known by the name of *Howlets*.

FOLKSTONE

Is ſituated between Dover and Hythe, and is a member of the cinque port of Dover. It is ſeventy one miles from London,

London, and appears to have been a very antient place, from the Roman coins and other antiquities which have been found in it. Here was formerly a nunnery; but ſo near the coaſt, that it was often pillaged by the Danes, and at laſt ſwallowed up by the ſea. However, after the conqueſt, a priory was founded here. Here is a charity-ſchool for twenty boys, nominated by the mayor and jurats, who, with the commonalty, conſtitute the corporation. A copious ſpring runs through the town; but it is chiefly noted for the multitude of fiſhing boats that belong to its harbour, which are employed at the proper ſeaſon in catching mackrell for London. And about Michaelmas the Folkſtone barks, with others from the Eſſex ſhore, ſail away to the coaſts of Suffolk and Norfolk, to catch herrings.

In going from Dover to Folkſtone, the traveller meets with ſix or ſeven very romantic miles; the road runs along the edge of vaſt precipices, the ſhore very high and bold, and nobly varied. From the hill, going down into Folkſtone, the view is extremely fine: you look down on a fine ſweep of incloſures, many of them graſs, of the moſt pleaſing verdure. The town, with its church on a point of land cloſe to the ſea. The edge of the lower grounds deſcribe as beautiful an outline as can be imagined: the union of the land and ſea compleat. As you deſcend the hill, the proſpect extends to the right: the vale opens, and ſpreads to the view a fine range of incloſures, bounded to the land by many hills, riſing in a great variety of forms: the whole ſcenery is very magnificent.

H I T H E

Is ſituated in the ſouth-eaſt part of the county of Kent, and is ſixty-nine miles from London. It is a cinque port and corporation, governed by a mayor, jurats and commonalty. This town had anciently five pariſh churches, though now it has only one. Here are two hoſpitals, and a charity-ſchool for thirty-eight boys.

A remarkable pile of dry bones has been preſerved in this town, and kept in a vault under the church, conſiſting of ſeveral thouſand heads, arms, legs, thigh bones, &c. ſome of which are very gigantic, and appear by an inſcription to be the remains of the Danes and Britons killed in a battle near this place, before the Norman Conqueſt.

RUM-

RUMNEY

Is often called *New Rumney*, to diſtinguiſh it from an inconſiderable town within a mile and a half of it, called Old Rumney. New Rumney is ſeventy miles from London, and is one of the cinque ports, and a corporation, governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty. The town ſtands on a high gravelly hill, in the middle of Rumney Marſh.—*Old Rumney* was once a large town, containing twelve wards, and five churches; and had a ſafe and commodious haven, when the ſea came ſo cloſe to it, that ſhips uſed to anchor in one of the church-yards; but the ſea deſerted it in the reign of King Edward I. and it has now but one church. It is ſaid that by a ſtorm which happened here in 1334, above 300 windmills and houſes were carried away; which, together with the withdrawing of the ſea, ſo impoveriſhed the place, that it could never recover it.

Rumney Marſh is the richeſt tract of grazing land in this part of the kingdom. It contains between 40,000 and 50,000 acres of fruitful land, on which vaſt flocks of ſheep, and herds of black cattle, are fattened, which are ſent hither from other parts, and ſold in the London markets. The ſheep are reckoned rather larger than thoſe of Leiceſterſhire and Lincolnſhire; and their bullocks the largeſt in England, eſpecially thoſe they call ſtalled oxen, from being kept all the latter ſeaſon within the farmer's yards, or ſheds, where they are fed for the winter ſeaſon. This Marſh is the place from whence a ſet of ſmugglers, called *Owlers*, from their going out in the duſk of the evening, have for many ages exported our wool to France. It is ſuppoſed to have been once covered by the ſea; and, as it is very unwholeſome, is but thinly inhabited.

TENDERDEN

Is an ancient town in Kent, at the diſtance of fifty-eight miles from London. It is governed by a mayor and jurats. The beacon of the church here is remarkably lofty, and is proverbially ſaid to have been the cauſe of ſome dangerous ſands in the channel, called Godwin Sands, of which we lately made mention. Theſe ſands were a tract of ground near the Iſle of Thanet, belonging to Godwin, Earl of Kent, which lying low, were defended from the ſea by a great wall, that required a conſtant care to uphold it. This tract was afterwards given to St. Auſtin's monaſtery

naſtery, near Canterbury; and the abbot neglecting the wall, while he was taken up in building Tenterden ſteeple, the ſea broke in and overflowed the ground, leaving the ſands upon it. At the time of the alarm of the Spaniſh invaſion, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a beacon was placed upon Tenterden ſteeple.

CRANBROOK

Is ſituated in a woody part of the county of Kent, and is the place where the firſt woollen manufacture in the kingdom was erected, by thoſe Flemings who were encouraged to ſettle here by King Edward III. in order to teach the art to his ſubjects; and excellent cloth uſed to be made here formerly; but that trade has long ſince decayed, and this is now only an inconſiderable place.

TUNBRIDGE.

This is a market town, at the diſtance of thirty miles from London, ſituated upon the river Medway, which here branches out into many little ſtreams, over all which there are bridges: from thence it derives its name, which is compounded of *Ton*, the Saxon word for Town, and *Bridge*. It conſiſts of one broad ſtreet, adorned by ſome very good modern houſes. Here is a good free-ſchool, which was erected and endowed about two hundred years ago, by Sir Andrew Judd, Lord Mayor of London, who veſted the care of it in the Skinners Company. It is kept in excellent repair, and is at preſent in a very flouriſhing condition. There is nothing remarkable in the church, which is a neat modern building. Here is a market on Fridays, and fairs held on Aſh-Wedneſday, the 5th of July, and the 29th of October.

At the further end of the town, on the right hand, as you come from London, the noble ruins of an old caſtle ſtrike you with awe and veneration. It was built by Richard de Clare, on a piece of ground which was given him by Langfranc, Archbiſhop of Canterbury, in exchange for as much land in Normandy, the meaſurement being on both ſides made with thongs of raw hides. It ſtands upon an eminence cloſe upon the banks of the Medway, and has been very ſtrong, and was anciently a place of conſiderable importance. Edward I. was nobly feaſted here in the ſecond year of his reign, by Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Glouceſter and Hertford. In the reign of Edward IV.

this caſtle was in the poſſeſſion of Henry, Duke of Buckingham; but in the reign of Henry VIII. both the town and caſtle were forfeited to the crown by the attainder of Edward Stafford, Duke of Buckingham; and the latter has not been in the leaſt repaired ſince that time. Queen Elizabeth gave it to her kinſman, Henry, Lord Hunſdon; from whoſe heirs it paſſed into private hands.

Five miles from the town of Tunbridge, at the very edge of the county, are *Spelhurſt Wells*, more commonly called *Tunbridge Wells*, which are much frequented on account of their mineral waters. Theſe wells are at the bottom of the walks, which are handſomely paved: on one ſide is the aſſembly-room, the coffee-rooms, the bookſellers ſhops, jewellers and milliners ſhops, and ſhops for china, and for Tunbridge-ware, which is made here to great perfection out of holly, cherry-tree, and ſycamore; of which a great quantity grows hereabouts. On the other ſide of the walks are coffee-rooms, another aſſembly-room, and taverns, and lodging-houſes. The muſic gallery is in the middle of the walks, which are beautifully ſhaded with trees: a piazza extends from the upper end to the bottom, quite down to the wells. The houſes and lodgings are very neat and commodious; moſt of them on the hills contiguous, called Mount Sion, Mount Ephraim, and Mount Pleaſant. Here is a decent chapel, which was built by ſubſcription, and where divine ſervice is performed every day: the Clergyman is paid by public contribution for his attendance. Here is alſo a diſſenting meeting-houſe.

The high rocks are about a mile from the walks, of which there are a vaſt number adjoining to each other, and ſeveral of them are ſeventy or eighty feet high; and at many places there are cliffs and cavities, that lead through them by narrow dark paſſages; and their being ſituated among the woods, by a little winding brook, makes them afford a moſt retired and delightful ſcene.

PENSHURST

Is three miles ſouth-weſt of Tunbridge, and was the antient ſeat of the noble family of Sidney, but at preſent of William Perry, Eſq. Penſhurſt was forfeited to the crown by the attainder of one of the Vane family, who followed the fortune of the unhappy Somerſet in the reign of Edward VI. That monarch beſtowed it upon the father of Sir Henry Sidney,

in

in whoſe arms he expired. This fact is mentioned in an inſcription over the gate of the Tower, through which you paſs into the court-yard, which is a very large ancient quadrangle of hewn ſtone, and was fortified in old times, being reckoned a place of no ſmall ſtrength. Here are many more rooms than are ſhewn to ſtrangers; thoſe that are opened are well furniſhed, and contain good pictures, tables, pillars, and vaſes of fine marble brought lately from Italy, well worth the inſpection of the curious. The houſe lies very low, and cloſe to a mean village, of great antiquity, of the ſame name. A powerful family, called Penſhurſt, or Pencheſter, was ſettled here in the time of the Conqueror, which has been long extinct. The park, which was formerly very conſiderable, is at preſent but ſmall, being incloſed and divided into farms.

The famous Sir Philip Sidney was born here; and it was here the celebrated Waller wrote many of his beſt pieces, under the auſpices of Lady Dorothy Sidney, whom he has immortalized by the name of Sacchariſſa. This Lady was daughter to Sidney, Earl of Leiceſter, to whom Penſhurſt then belonged; and wife to Henry, Lord Spencer, created Earl of Sunderland by King Charles the Firſt, in whoſe defence he was ſlain, gallantly fighting at Newbury.

Not far from Penſhurſt is a noble ſtructure, mouldering into ruins, called *Somerhill*, which ſtands very high, and has a moſt extenſive command of country. It antiently belonged to the Earls of Hertford and Glouceſter. Somerhill being forfeited to the Crown by Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, was given by Queen Elizabeth to Sir Francis Walſingham, with whoſe daughter it paſſed into the hands of three great families; for ſhe was married to three different huſbands. Her firſt was the renowned Sir Philip Sydney; her ſecond the unfortunate Earl of Eſſex; and her third, Ulick de Burgh, Marquis of Clanrickard, Earl of St. Alban's, Viſcount Tunbridge, and Baron Somerhill, one of the moſt remarkable and accompliſhed Noblemen of King Charles the Firſt's reign. Charles II. who uſed to come ſometimes to Tunbridge, kept his retinue at Somerhill.

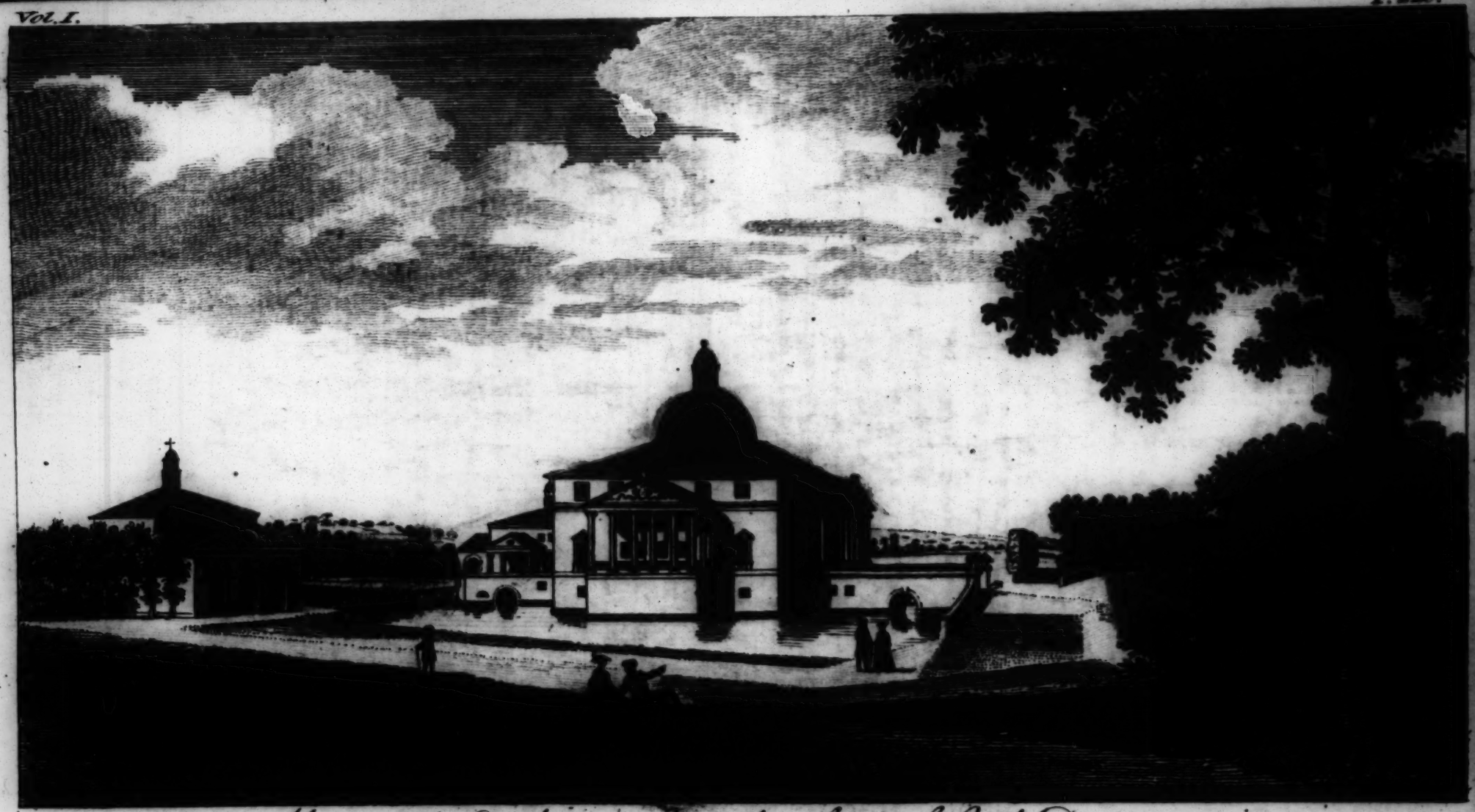
MAIDSTONE

Is ſituated on the river Medway, and is thirty-ſix miles from London. In the time of the Britons it was their third chief city, it was alſo a ſtation of the Romans, and has been a conſiderable town in all ages ſince. It is a large, pleaſant, and populous place; and is a corporation, governed by a mayor and commonalty. The chief trade of Maidſtone is in thread, which is made here in great perfection, and in hops, of which there are vaſt plantations, beſides orchards of fine cherries. From this town, and the adjacent country, London is ſaid to be ſupplied with more neceſſaries of life, than from any other market-town in England, particularly with large bullocks, timber, wheat, hops, and apples. The county courts are held in this town, and generally the aſſizes. Here is a fine ſtone bridge over the Medway, erected by one of the archbiſhops of Canterbury. At this place the river Len falls into the Medway, and the tide flows quite up to the town, and carries barges of ſixty tons.—The weekly market on Thurſday is reckoned the beſt frequented of any in the county, and is toll-free for hops. There are four annual fairs here, viz. on the 13th of February, the 12th of May, the 20th of June, and the 17th of October.

Weſt Malling is a market-town of great antiquity, thirty miles from London, and where there was formerly a nunnery of the Benedictine order; but it is now an inconſiderable place.

MEREWORTH CASTLE.

This fine ſeat is ſituated two miles ſouth-eaſt of Malling; it was formerly the ſeat of the Earl of Weſtmoreland, but is now in the poſſeſſion of Lord Deſpenſer. It is eſteemed a very fine piece of architecture, and was deſigned by Colin Campbell, in imitation of a palace in Italy, built by the famous Palladio. It is a ſquare extending eighty-eight feet, and has four porticos of the Ionic order. In the middle there riſes above the roof a ſemicircular dome, which has two ſhells; the one forms the ſtucco-cieling of the ſaloon, being thirty-ſix feet diameter; the outward ſhell is carpentry covered with lead. Between theſe two ſhells is a ſtrong brick arch, that brings twenty-four funnels to the



Mereworth Castle in Kent, the Seat of Lord Despenser.

the lantern, which is finiſhed with copper; but by this contrivance there is occaſioned an inconvenience; the chimnies often ſmoke.

SEVENOKE.

This town, which is twenty-four miles from London, in the road to Tunbridge, is ſaid to have derived its name from ſeven very large and high oaks which ſtood near it, when it was firſt built, but which have been long ſince cut down. Here is an hoſpital for maintaining poor old people, and a ſchool for educating poor children, which was built and endowed by Sir William Sevenoke, who was Lord Mayor of London in 1418, and who is ſaid to have been a foundling, brought up by ſome perſon of this town, from whence he took his name. John Potkyn, who lived in the reign of King Henry the Eighth, was a great benefactor to the ſchool; and the revenue being augmented by Queen Elizabeth, it was from thence called Queen Elizabeth's free ſchool. It was rebuilt in 1727.

At *Knowle*, in the neighbourhood of Sevenoke, the Duke of Dorſet has a fine ſeat, the park and gardens belonging to which are laid out in a very elegant manner.

EAST GRINSTEAD.

This is a town in Suſſex, thirty miles from London, and which is ſo called to diſtinguiſh it from a ſmall place of the ſame name in the county, called Weſt Grinſtead. It is an antient borough by preſcription, and has ſent members to parliament from the time of Edward II. The town is but ſmall, though it is the place where the county aſſizes have been frequently held. There is an hoſpital here, which was built in the reign of King James I. by Robert Sackville, Earl of Dorſet, who endowed it with 330l. a year, for the maintenance of thirty-one poor perſons of this town. The weekly market is on Thurſday, and there are two fairs held here, one on the 13th of July, and the other on the 11th of December.

Between Eaſt Grinſtead and Lewes, near Newick, Mr. Holyroyd has a very pleaſing ſeat, known by the name of SHEFFIELD PLACE, and which is ſituated in one of the moſt agreeable parts of the county of Suſſex. The park is fine, forming

forming varied lawns well wooded, ſhelving into winding vales, and commandig very noble ſweeps of richly cultivated country. One vale takes an irregular courſe through the park and grounds; and the boundaries of which are well contraſted. In ſome places thick woods of oak hang to the bottom; in others copſes, incloſures, and ſcattered trees; in one ſpot the hllis riſe in a bold manner, intermixed with rocks and pendent woods. A ſmall river takes its courſe through the vale, which is formed into two lakes, one of them at the foot of the romantic ground abovementioned; the other partly environed by a large wood, which on one ſide is thick to the very water's edge; but on the other the underwood againſt the water is cleared away, and the land converted to lawn, but the trees left in it, which forms a moſt agreeable retired ſcene, backed by the thick wood. The lawn breaks away among the woods, and riſes to the houſe, which ſtands on higher ground. This winding vale, ſo rich in wood, water, and hanging ſides of hills, is ſeen to great advantage from a ſeat in the park, from whence the view is truly pictureſque. Near the houſe is a wood of ſixty acres, full of very fine timber, and cut into agreeable walks, one of which, that winds by the ſide of the river in a ſequeſtered part of the valley, is very beautiful.

L E W E S.

This town is fifty miles from London, and is a place of great antiquity, as appears from King Athelſtan's having appointed his royal mint to be kept here. It is a pleaſant place, ſituated in an open country, on the edge of the South Downs, and is one of the largeſt and moſt populous towns in the county of Suſſex. The aſſizes are often held here. Though it is a borough town by preſcription, and ſends two members to parliament, it is not under the direction of a corporation; but is governed by two conſtables, who are aſſiſted by the principal inhabitants of the town. The town is large, and has ſix pariſh churches in it, and contains many handſome houſes; and there are two large ſuburbs adjoining to it; one called South-over, on the weſt ſide of the town; and the other called Cliff, from its ſituation on a chalky hill, on the eaſt ſide of the river Ouſe. There are many gentlemen of fortune who reſide in this town, and its neighbourhood.

There are ſeveral iron works in Lewes, particularly a foundery

foundery for cannon. There are ſeveral diſſenting meetings here; and a charity-ſchool for boys, ſupported by voluntary ſubſcription. In the neighbourhood of this town horſe-races are often held.

B A T T L E.

This is a town in Suſſex, fifty-ſix miles from London, which derives its name from the battle in which William the Norman defeated King Harold, and obtained the crown of England. This battle was fought in a field called Heathfield, near this town: Heathfield is alſo near Haſtings, and this battle is therefore ſometimes called the battle of Haſtings. On the ſpot where the body of the brave Harold was found, the Conqueror erected a ſtately abbey in memory of that event; to which was given the name of *Battle Abbey*; and he placed in it a number of Benedictine monks, to pray for the ſouls of the ſlain. Not long after, ſeveral houſes were erected round it, and it at length became a town.

Some of the remains of this abbey are yet ſtanding, but the town has gradually fallen to decay from the time of the reformation. The pariſh church is a low Gothic ſtructure. The trade of the town conſiſts principally in making gunpowder, and that made here is eſteemed the beſt in England. The weekly market is on Thurſday, and there is a fair held here on Whit-Monday, and another on the 22d of November.

About eight miles ſouth-weſt of Battle, are the remains of an ancient caſtle, called *Hurſtmonceux*, which was a place of great repute at the time of the Norman conqueſt.

R Y E.

This town is ſixty four miles from London, and is an appendage to the cinque port of Haſtings. It is a peninſula, waſhed on the weſt and ſouth by the ſea, and on the eaſt by the river Rother. The town ſtands on the ſide of a hill, and has a delightful proſpect of the ſea. In the reign of King Edward the Third, Rye was walled and fortified by William D'Ypres, Earl of Kent; and there is a tower yet ſtanding, which bears his name, and is uſed for the town gaol. Here is one of the largeſt pariſh churches in England, an handſome Gothic ſtructure; and there is a free grammar ſchool here, founded and endowed

dowed on a very benevolent and expenſive plan; for it is open for the reception of every child in the town who chuſes to go to it. This place formerly had one of the moſt conſiderable harbours between Portſmouth and Dover; but for a conſiderable time it has been ſo choaked up with ſand, that the ſmalleſt veſſel could ſcarcely enter it; and a conſiderable part of the harbour, gained from the ſea, was turned into arable land. Some endeavours have ſince been uſed to make it again a commodious harbour; and an act of parliament was paſſed to promote that deſign in 1762. There is a market here on Wedneſdays and Saturdays: and two fairs, one on Whit-Monday, and another on the 10th of Auguſt.

WINCHELSEA

Is three miles from Rye, and ſixty-ſeven from London. This town was built in the reign of King Edward the Firſt, when an older town of the ſame name, two or three miles to the ſouth-eaſt, which is ſaid to have been very large, was ſwallowed up by the ſea in a tempeſt. The town enjoys the privileges of a cinque port, ſends two members to parliament, and is governed by a mayor and three jurats. It is, however, a very inconſiderable place; for it was not long after it was built, before it was deſerted by the ſea, after which it loſt all its trade. There now remains little more than the ſkeleton of a town; for the ground where moſt of the ſtreets were formerly, is now turned into corn fields, or paſture grounds; and of three pariſh churches, there remains only the channel of one, which is uſed for divine ſervice. There is a fair held here on the 14th of May.

HASTINGS.

This town is ſixty-three miles from London, and is ſuppoſed to have derived its name from one Haſting, a Daniſh pirate, who generally built a ſmall fort wherever he landed to pillage, in order to cover his men, and ſecure his retreat. This is the chief of the cinque ports, and is governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty. The town lies between two high cliffs, one on the ſea, and another on the land-ſide. Great quantities of fiſh are taken upon this coaſt, and ſent to London. It is a populous place, and contains two pariſh churches. The weekly markets are on Wedneſdays and Saturdays; and there are three annual fairs here,

here, namely on Whit-Tueſday, the 26th of July, and the 23d of October.

At *Aſhburnham*, which is eight miles from Haſtings, the Earl of Aſhburnham has a fine ſeat.

At *Pevenſey*, which is ſouth-weſt of Haſtings, are the remains of a caſtle, which was built by William the Conqueror, and which appears to have been a very venerable ſtructure.

Beachy-head is a famous promontory, near Pevenſey, and is reckoned the higheſt cliff of all the ſouth coaſt of England; for it projects over the beach to a greater perpendicular height, than the monument in London. Many ſhips have been loſt here in ſtormy weather, and in the rock are many caverns formed by the violence of the waves. As this is reckoned the higheſt beach on the ſouth coaſt of this iſland, and is divided into ſeven points or cliffs, it is well known to our mariners, who call it the Seven Cliffs.

Seaforth is a ſmall fiſhing town, near Beachy-head. It is a place of conſiderable antiquity, and enjoys the privileges of a ſea port.

Newhaven is a ſmall, but populous town, in the neighbourhood of Seaforth. It has a convenient, though little harbour, and ſome veſſels are built here; and the trade of the place is not inconſiderable.

BRIGHTHELMSTONE.

This town is fifty eight miles from London, and is a place of ſome antiquity; but it is at preſent chiefly celebrated for the concourſe of nobility and gentry who viſit it, during the ſummer ſeaſon, for the benefit of bathing in the ſea. The town is pleaſantly ſituated on a riſing ground, near the ſea, and the air is eſteemed healthy. Before the civil wars in the laſt century, this was eſteemed the greateſt fiſhing town in the county of Suſſex; but it has declined in that branch of trade ever ſince, its chief dependence now being on the number of perſons who reſort here for the purpoſe of bathing; though indeed many come here rather becauſe it is conſidered as a genteel place of diſſipation, than from any deſire of benefitting their health by bathing in the ſea.

The town is divided into ſeveral ſmall ſtreets, between which there are lanes, wherein the poorer ſort of people reſide. The town hall ſtands near the ſea, and under it is a

priſon for felons, and a warehouſe in which the ſtores are kept, they having a ſmall battery for guns, although they are not mounted but in time of war. The pariſh church ſtands at a little diſtance from the town, and there are meeting-houſes for diſſenters and quakers. The Counteſs of Huntingdon has alſo erected a chapel here at her own expence. There is a free-grammar ſchool here, and two charity-ſchools.

There is every neceſſary accommodation and convenience provided, for thoſe who come here for the purpoſe of bathing; and a perſon is appointed to act as maſter of the ceremonies, in the ſame manner as at Bath, and who regulates the public meetings and diverſions. There is a weekly market on Thurſday, well ſupplied with all ſorts of proviſions; and there are two fairs held here, one on Holy Thurſday, and the other on the 4th of September.

On the weſt ſide of Brighthelmſtone, a great number of human bones have been found, from whence it is concluded that a battle was fought here. Many are of opinion that Cæſar, in one of his expeditions into Britain, landed at this place. In the neighbourhood of this town an urn was dug up ſome years ago, containing a thouſand ſilver denarii, and ſome of all the emperors, from Antoninus Pius to Philip; and the altars of the Druids have no where been met with in greater numbers than about Brighthelmſtone.

NEW SHOREHAM

Is nine miles from Brighthelmſtone, and fifty-eight from London. It took its riſe from the decay of *Old Shoreham*, now a ſmall village north weſt of it. Though moſt of this town has been waſhed away by the ſea, it is ſtill a large populous place. The pariſh church is a noble Gothic ſtructure. The harbour here is but indifferent, though ſhips of conſiderable burthen can come into it. Many artificers are conſtantly employed here, in building ſmall veſſels for the coaſting trade. There is a fair here on the 25th of July.

Bramber, which is not far diſtant from New Shoreham, was formerly a place of conſiderable repute, but is now fallen to decay. *Findon* is a village between Bramber and Arundel; and from this place, round by Houghton-bridge, along the edge of the Downs, towards Arundel, are very noble views over the wild. At one ſpot in particular, where the road leads very near a precipice, the ſlope of the hill is ſo ſteep,



ſteep, that a boy could not crawl it, and ſo high, that the immenſe country open to you, is ſeen below in ſuch a manner, that almoſt every encloſure is diſtinct, in a vale ten miles long by three broad. A bold wave of the hill to the right and left, forms a dell at your feet at the foot of the down; a thick clump of wood fills it, and forms a romantic ſcene. The wave of the hill to the left is finely fringed with wood; groves that ſkirt the fields break from it, and diverſify the view: a farm with ſtacks, and a large water, under the ſhade of a noble wood, form a complete picture: other woods ſpreading about the vale, are broken by innumerable incloſures, of which you have an admirable view. To the right, the down hills bear away one beyond another, forming very ſtriking projections. The whole is a ſcene extremely magnificent.

A R U N D E L

Is ſo called from its ſituation in a dale, or valley, upon the bank of the river Arun. It is 56 miles from London, and is a borough by preſcription, having ſent members to parliament from the thirteenth year of King Edward the Firſt, and is ſo antient as to be mentioned in King Alfred's will. It is governed under a charter of Queen Elizabeth, by a mayor, twelve burgeſſes, a ſteward, and under officers. The mayor is inveſted with conſiderable powers, and no writ can be executed within the borough without his permiſſion.

This town is pleaſantly ſituated on the ſide of a hill, and has an ancient caſtle, ſaid to be a mile in compaſs, and to have been built in the time of the Saxons. William the Conqueror conferred this caſtle on Roger de Montgomery, who repaired it, and was created Earl of Arundel and Shrewſbury; but he took his title from Arundel Caſtle, where he reſided; and his ſucceſſors long enjoyed it as a local dignity, together with the caſtle; but the title being diſputed, it was declared by act of parliament in the reign of King Henry the Sixth, that all perſons who had been, or ſhould be poſſeſſed of the caſtle and honour of Arundel, were, and ſhould be, Earls of the ſame, without any other creation; and the title, manor, and caſtle, ſtill continue inſeparable. Arundel Caſtle is in a better condition than might be expected from its age, and is now one of the ſeats of the Duke of Norfolk, who enjoys the title of Earl of Arundel.

Arundel church is a venerable Gothic ſtructure, and was formerly a collegiate.—There is a good wooden bridge here

over the river.—Four fairs are held here yearly, viz. on the 14th of May for cattle, on the 21ſt of Auguſt for hogs, on the 25th of September for ſheep, and on the 17th of December for pedlary wares.

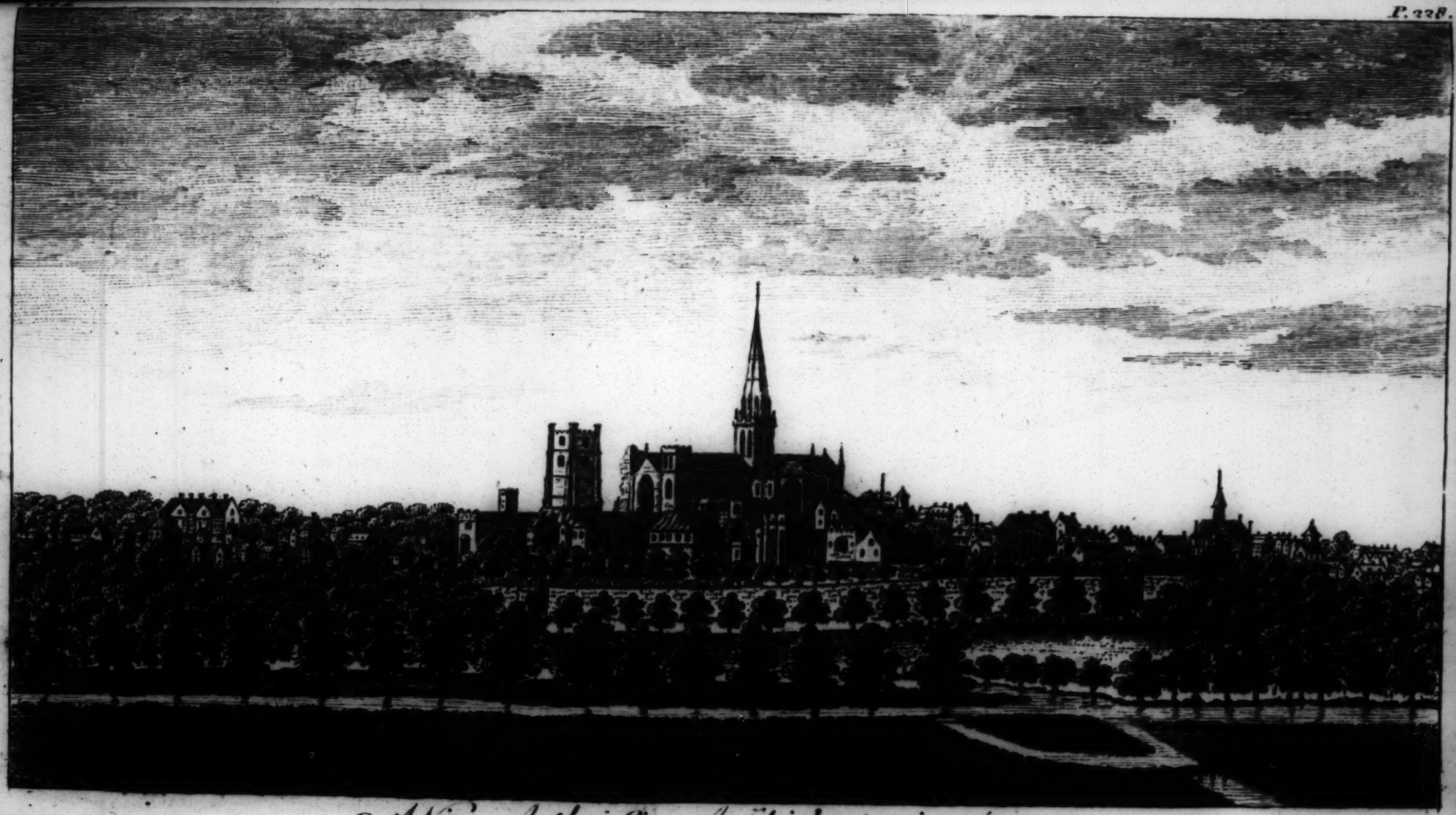
CHICHESTER.

This City, which is ſixty-three miles from London, is ſuppoſed to derive its name from the Saxon words *Ciſſanceaſter*, which ſignifies the City of Ciſſa; and it was thus called from Ciſſa, the ſecond king of the South Saxons, who rebuilt it after it had been deſtroyed by ſome Saxon and Norwegian pirates, and made it the royal reſidence, and the capital of his kingdom. This city has been the ſee of a biſhop ever ſince the time of William the Conqueror. It is a county of itſelf, and is governed under a charter of King James the Second, by a mayor, a recorder, aldermen, and common council.

Chicheſter is ſurrounded by the river Lavant on every ſide but the north, and is a neat compact city, incloſed by a ſtone wall, with four gates, anſwering to the four points, eaſt, weſt, north, and ſouth. From each of theſe gates there is a ſtreet, which is denominated from its gate, and terminates in the market-place, which is the center of the city, and is adorned with a ſtone piazza. In the middle is a ſtately croſs, erected by Biſhop Story, about the beginning of the ſixteenth century. The ſtreets in general are broad, and the houſes uniform and well built.

There is a cathedral in Chicheſter, and five pariſh churches. The cathedral is a neat, though ſmall building, and is adorned with a ſpire, much admired for its ſtrength and curious workmanſhip. There is an epiſcopal palace here, which was rebuilt ſome years ago, but it is rather large than elegant. This edifice, with the cathedral, and houſes of the prebendaries, takes up all that quarter of the city between the weſt and ſouth gates. The market houſe is a handſome ſtructure, and over it is a large room, in which the gentry have balls and public aſſemblies.

Much of the trade of this city conſiſts in making of malt; and here is alſo a conſiderable manufactory of needles. The river is not deep enough near the city to make a good harbour; but here is ſome foreign trade; and a collector, with other officers of the cuſtoms, at Dell Key, a ſmall harbour, about four miles from the ſea, where veſſels come in at high water, and go out with wheat, flour, timber, and coals, for



A View of the City of Chichester in Sussex.

for London and other ports.——There are five annual fairs here; viz. on the third of May, Whit-Monday, the fifth of Auguſt, the tenth of October, and twentieth of the ſame month.

In the year 1723, a ſtone was dung up at Chicheſter, with an inſcription, which, though ſomewhat defaced, plainly intimated, that it was the foundation ſtone of a temple erected here in the reign of the emperor Claudius, and dedicated to Neptune and Minerva. In this city there have been alſo found, at different times, a great number of Roman coins. And when the epiſcopal palace was re-built, the workmen dug up ſeveral antient coins; and in the garden was diſcovered a curious piece of Roman pavement.

On the weſt ſide of Chicheſter is a large Roman camp called the Brill. It is an oblong ſquare, being about half a mile in length, and a quarter of a mile in breadth. It lies in a flat low ground, with a great rampart and a ſingle graff, and is generally thought to have been the firſt camp of the emperor Veſpaſian, after his landing in Britain. Not far from Chicheſter, on the ſame ſide, is another camp, called Gonſhill, which is alſo ſuppoſed to have been thrown up by the Romans, it being likewiſe an oblong ſquare.—On a hill, north of the city, called Rook's Hill, or Roche's Hill, is an ancient camp of an orbicular form, ſomething more than a quarter of a mile in diameter, ſuppoſed to have been thrown up by the Danes.

At a little diſtance from Chicheſter, the Duke of Richmond has a fine ſeat, known by the name of GOODWOOD. It formerly belonged to the noble family of Piercy; but being purchaſed by the late Duke of Richmond, he pulled down the antient Gothic ſtructure, and erected a fine manſion, according to a plan drawn by Mr. Campbell, author of the Vitruvius Britannicus. It is a moſt excellent ſtructure, and the proſpect from it is extremely delightful.

Near Goodwood was an antient caſtle, now converted into a dwelling houſe, ſurrounded by fine gardens, from the windows of which there are ſome admirable views. And near it is a ſmall delightful village, called Boxgrove, where a monaſtery was founded in the reign of King Henry I. for monks of the Benedictine order. The church which belonged to this monaſtery, is now uſed by the inhabitants of the pariſh for divine ſervice.

About

About five miles from Chicheſter, is STANSTED PARK, a fine ſeat which belonged to the late Earl of Hallifax; who left it by will, to his natural daughter. It is a moſt agreeable place; and from the dining room windows there is a complete proſpect of the Iſle of Wight, together with a view of the royal navy in Portſmouth harbour, St. Helen's, and Spithead. The gardens are delightful, and the walks in the park extremely rural.

At *Boſeham*, a village ſouth-weſt of Chicheſter, now chiefly inhabited by fiſhermen, a monaſtery was founded before the year 681. And the pariſh church here is a ſtately Gothic edifice, which was built at the ſole expence of William Warelwaſt, Biſhop of Exeter, in the reign of Henry I. It was made collegiate for a dean and prebendaries; and the ſtalls for the prebendaries are yet ſtanding, over which are carvings of very antient workmanſhip. The daughter of Canute the Great was buried here, and there is in the church an ancient monument, ſaid to be in memory of that Princeſs.

M I D H U R S T.

This town is fifty-two miles diſtant from London, and is a borough by preſcription, governed by a bailiff, choſen annually by a jury at the court-leet, It has ſent members to parliament ever ſince the year 1311, the fourth of Edward II. and is a pretty large town, pleaſantly ſituated on a hill, ſurrounded with ſeveral other hills. There is a fair held here on Lady-day.

Lord Viſcount Montacute has a very handſome ſeat at COWDRY, near Midhurſt. It is one of the moſt agreeable places in the county of Suſſex. The ſituation is in a beautiful valley, and the late Lord Montacute was at great expence in adorning the houſe, and making improvements in the park and gardens. The wars of Henry VIII. are painted on different parts of the rooms by Hans Holbein; and here are portraits of ſeveral noble perſons of this antient family by that artiſt. The new improvements in this ſeat are executed in the Gothic taſte; ſo that the houſe, although modern, has all the appearance of antiquity.

There are ſeveral agreeable villages in the neighbourhood of Midhurſt, particularly *Charlton*, where the country gentlemen have houſes to keep their dogs and horſes for the chace;

chace; and amongſt others, there is one belonging to the Duke of Richmond, executed on a deſign of the Earl of Burlington.

PETWORTH

Is forty-nine miles from London, and is a large, populous, handſome town, ſituated on a fine dry aſcent, in a healthy air. The church here is an indifferent ſtructure, though the rectory is the richeſt in the county, being ſaid to be worth ſeven hundred pounds a year. There is a fair held at this place for black cattle on Holy Thurſday, and another for ſheep and hogs on the 20th of November.

The Earl of Egremont has a noble ſeat here, which formerly belonged to Algernon, Duke of Somerſet. The front is of free-ſtone, and adorned on the top with ſtatues: the great ſtairs and apartments are magnificent; the offices are very commodious, and there is one vault near four hundred feet in length. This ſeat originally belonged to the noble family of Piercy, and there is a ſword in the armoury here, which is ſaid to have been the weapon of the famous Henry Hotſpur, Lord Piercy, who was killed in the battle of Shrewſbury, fighting againſt King Henry IV.

HORSHAM.

This town derives its name from Horſa, brother of Hengiſt the Saxon, who is ſuppoſed to have had his reſidence here. It is thirty-ſeven miles from London, and is a borough by preſcription, governed by two bailiffs, choſen yearly at the court-leet. The county aſſizes are ſometimes held here; and here is the county goal. This is one of the largeſt towns in Suſſex, and has a fine church, a large venerable Gothic ſtructure, and a well endowed free-ſchool. The country round Horſham is well cultivated, and there is a quarry of excellent free-ſtone in the neighbourhood. The weekly market on Saturday, is well ſupplied with proviſions, particularly poultry, of which the greateſt part is bought up by the dealers in London.—There are three fairs held here, viz. on the Monday before Whitſunday, on the 18th of July, and the 27th of November.—On the north-eaſt of Horſham is the foreſt of St. Leonard, where the neighbouring gentry enjoy the diverſion of hunting.

HASLE-

HASLEMERE.

This is a borough-town in the county of Surrey, at the diſtance of forty-four miles from London. It is pleaſantly ſituated on the borders of Suſſex, and is a place of conſiderable antiquity; but is now greatly decayed. It is governed by a bailiff, and is ſaid to have had ſeven pariſh churches formerly, though it has now no more than one chapel of eaſe to Chidingfold, a village about two miles to the eaſt of it. There is a fair held here on the firſt of May, and another on the 25th of September.

GODALMIN

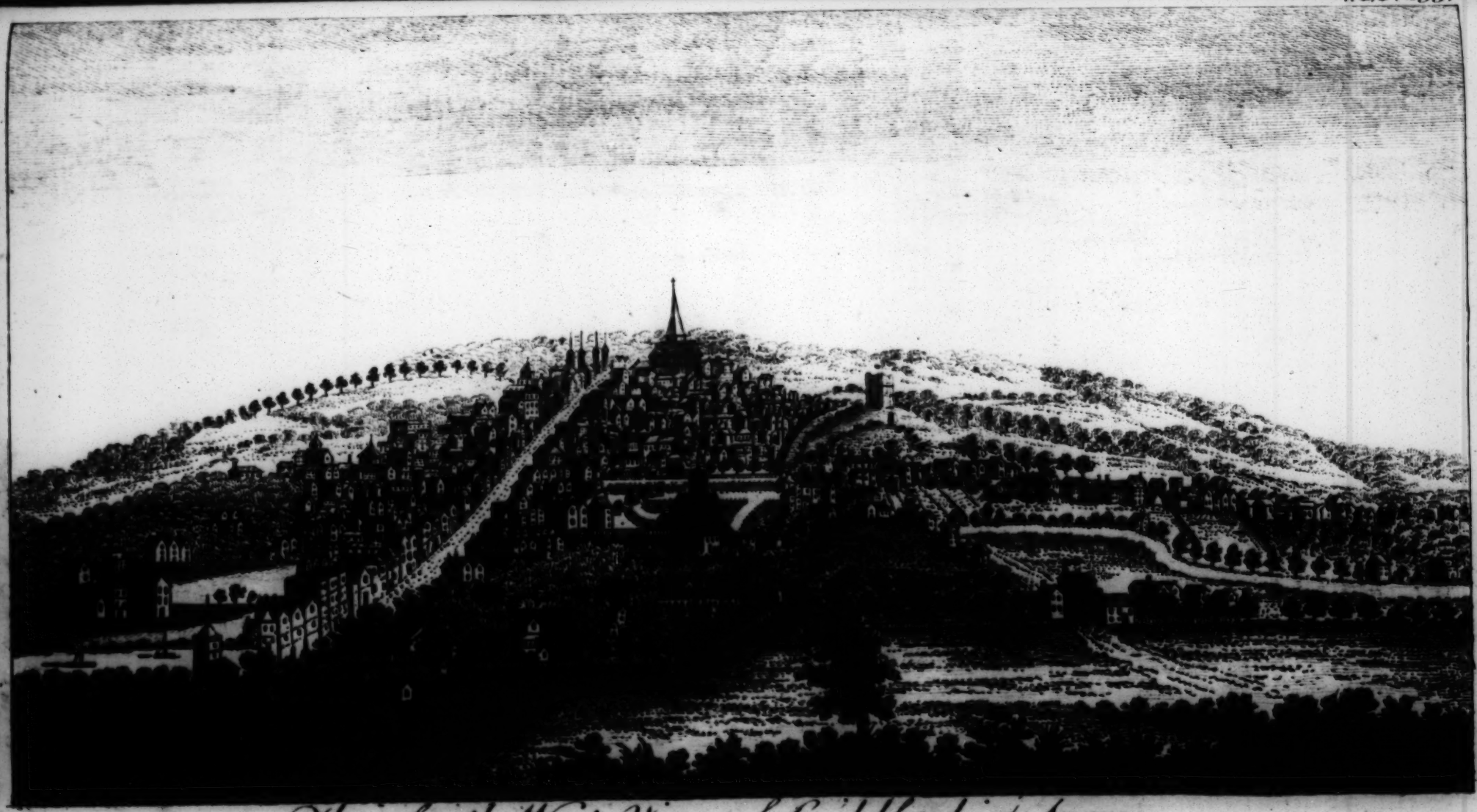
Is an ancient town ſituated on the river Wey, thirty-four miles from London, and ten from Haſlemere. It is ſaid to have derived its name from Goda, a Saxon lady, who was the foundreſs of a religious houſe. It is a flouriſhing place, particularly for the manufactory of woollen cloth, and worſted ſtockings, of which laſt great quantities are made here. It is ſaid, that in 1739, the ſmall-pox carried off above five hundred perſons here in three months, which was more than a third of the inhabitants. There are ſeveral paper-mills in this town, which have continued here ever ſince the reign of King James I. There is a fair held here on the 13th of February, and another on the 10th of July.

FARNHAM

Is ſuppoſed to have derived its name from the plant called *Fern*, with which this place formerly abounded. It is forty miles from London, and was given by Ethelbald, King of the Weſt Saxons, to the ſee of Wincheſter; the Biſhops of which ſee have generally reſided here in the ſummer, ever ſince the reign of King Stephen, in a Caſtle built by that King's brother, who was then Biſhop of Wincheſter. This Caſtle was a magnificent ſtructure, with deep moats, ſtrong walls, and towers at proper diſtances, and a fine park; but it is much decayed.

This is a large and populous town, and here is one of the greateſt wheat-markets in England: a great quantity of hops, ſaid to be as good as any in the kingdom, is produced in the neighbourhood of this place. This town ſent members to parliament in the reign of Edward II. but never ſince.

GUIL-



The South West View of Guildford in Surry.

GUILFORD.

This town is ſituated on the river Wey, at the diſtance of thirty miles from London. In the time of the Saxons, as well as afterwards, it was a royal villa, where many of our Kings uſed to paſs the feſtivals; and in particular King Henry II. King John and King Edward III. kept their Chriſtmas here. This town is governed by a mayor, a recorder, ſeven aldermen, ſixteen bailiffs, and other officers. The aſſizes for the county are held often here, and always the election of knights of the ſhire. The town is large, handſome, and well built; and has always been famous for good inns, and excellent accommodations for travellers. There were three churches in this town, but one of them, being an ancient building, fell down in April 1740. Here is a free ſchool, founded by King Edward the Sixth, and an handſome alms-houſe, called Trinity-hoſpital, founded by George Abbot, archbiſhop of Canterbury, and endowed by him with lands worth 300l. a year, for the maintenance of a maſter, twelve brethreen, and eight ſiſters. It conſiſts of a handſome quadrangle, built of brick, with a tower and four turrets over the gate. It has a chapel, in which are two windows well painted. Here alſo are two charity-ſchools, one for thirty boys, and the other for twenty girls.

In the neighbourhood of Guilford, there is a fine circular courſe for horſe races, which begin when the Newmarket races end; and King William III. left a plate of 100 guineas to be run for here every May. On the ſouth ſide of this town there is a chalky hill, called St. Catharine's Hill, from which there is an exceeding fine proſpect to the north and north weſt; and on this hill ſtands a gallows, which is in ſuch a poſition, as to be ſeen from all the ſhop doors in the High-ſtreet of Guilford, ſo that the inhabitants can ſee the executions there without going from home.—At a little diſtance from Guilford is *Clandon-Park*, a fine ſeat belonging to Lord Onſlow; and at *Horſley* is a ſeat of Lord Bingley's.

OCKLEY, OR OAKLY.

This is a village in Surry, which is ſaid to have derived its name from the vaſt number of oak trees, growing in the neighbourhood. There was a caſtle here formerly, which was beſieged by the Danes in the reign of King Ethelwolf, and the moat which ſurrounded it is ſtill to be ſeen near the church. The church yard here is remarkable for roſe buſhes planted

at the head of ſeveral graves, in conformity to an ancient cuſtom obſerved here among lovers; for if either of any two lovers dies before marriage, the ſurvivor plants a roſe tree at the head of the deceaſed's grave; and ſome are at the expence of keeping up ſuch trees for many years. This practice is ſuppoſed to have been derived from the ancient Greeks and Romans, who, according to Anacreon and Ovid, imagined that roſes, planted or ſtrewed upon the graves of the dead, perfumed and protected their aſhes.

D A R K I N G.

This is a market town in Surrey, twenty-four miles from London, pleaſantly ſituated on the banks of the river Mole. It is a place of conſiderable antiquity, and is built on a ſoft rock of ſandy ſtone; and the cellars under the houſes being cut out of the ſame materials, are extremely cold even in ſummer. Some of our moſt eminent phyſicians have eſteemed the air at this place the moſt healthy in England; and many of the citizens of London have country ſeats in and near the town. The ſtreets are broad, open, well-paved, and kept extremely clean; ſo that the whole has a very agreeable appearance. The town is famous for its great corn trade, and vaſt quantities of corn, poultry, and other neceſſaries of life, are ſold here for the uſe of the London markets; and the town is well ſupplied with butchers meat, freſh water fiſh from the Mole, and ſea fiſh from the coaſt of Suſſex.—At the entrance of the town is *Shrub-hill*, the ſeat of Lord Cathcart.

Box-hill, in this neighbourhood, had its name from its being planted for the moſt part with box trees, cut out into a great number of arbours, and formed into Labyrinths. This hill, from whence there is a moſt enchanting proſpect, is much the reſort of gentry from all parts of the county.

About five miles from Darking, is the village of *Wotton*; and in opening the ground in the church-yard here, to enlarge the vault of the Evelyn family, in the reign of King Charles the Second, a human ſkeleton was found, which meaſured nine feet three inches in length.—Not far from Wotton is *Leith-hill*, which is celebrated for its extent, and the uncommon fineneſs of its proſpect. It conſiſts of one continued, and almoſt imperceptible aſcent from Wotton, for near three miles to the ſouth; and from the ſummit ſinks, on the ſouth ſide, with a gentle declivity of about eight miles, as far as Horſham in Suſſex. This is by much the higheſt hill in the county of Surrey,

Surrey, and from the top of it may be ſeen, in a clear day, all Surrey and Suſſex, parts of Hampſhire, Berkſhire, Oxfordſhire, Buckinghamſhire, Hertfordſhire, Middleſex, Eſſex, and Kent; and by the help of a teleſcope, ſome part of Wiltſhire; ſo that the whole circumference of the view is thought to be near 260 miles.

RYEGATE.

This town is twenty-three miles from London, ſituated in the vale of Holmſdale, and is ſurrounded with hills. It is an ancient borough by preſcription, and is governed by a bailiff, choſen annually at the manor-court. Here is a handſome church, built of free ſtone, a charity-ſchool, and a market-houſe, which was formerly a chapel, dedicated to Thomas a Becket; and here are ſome inconſiderable remains of a very antient caſtle.—There is a fair held here on Whit Monday, and another on the 14th of September.

In the reign of King Henry III. William Warren, Earl of Surrey, founded a priory of Black Canons, at the bottom of a hill, adjoining to Ryegate, which is now converted into a dwelling-houſe, and a few years ago was the reſidence of the late Alderman Parſons.

On the ſouth-ſide of Ryegate is a fine park full of little groves; and under this there is a wonderful vault of arched work, made of free-ſtone, and hollowed with great labour.

WOKING is a ſmall market-town, twenty-eight miles from London, which was once a conſiderable place, but is now much decayed. Two miles to the north by eaſt of Woking, is PURFORD, or PYRFORD, a village, in which is a fine ſeat which belonged to the late Denzil Onſlow, Eſq. It is ſituated near the banks of the Wey, and is rendered extremely pleaſant by the beautiful intermixture of wood and water, in the park, gardens, and adjoining grounds. By the park is a decoy, the firſt of the kind in this part of England.

Four miles to the eaſt of Woking, is OAKHAM, the ſeat of Lord King, whoſe park extends to the great road. This was purchaſed by Sir Peter King, afterwards Lord Chancellor. The houſe was greatly repaired and beautified by the late Lord, and the preſent Lord King has made great improvements in the park and gardens.—The inhabitants of this village have a tradition, that at Ockham Court was formerly a nunnery, and that a ſubterraneous paſſage went from it to Newark abbey, (which ſtood in the neighbouring pariſh of

Send) by which there was a communication between the monks and nuns.

BAGSHOT.

This is a village in Surrey, twenty-seven miles from London, in the great Western road, and chiefly remarkable for its affording good accommodations for travellers. At a little distance is *Bagshot Park*, a fine seat belonging to the Earl of Albemarle. *Bagshot-heath* is a large barren tract of country, but appears to be capable of great improvement.

MAIDENHEAD.

This is a market-town in Berkshire, at the distance of twenty-eight miles from London. It stands in two parishes, Cookham and Bray, and was raised out of obscurity by a bridge, which about three centuries ago was built over the Thames at this place, and brought hither the great north-west road, which used to cross the Thames at a place called Babham end, about two miles to the north, where there was a ferry. After this bridge was built, Maidenhead began to be accommodated with inns, and the town is now pretty large, and tolerably well built. The bridge is maintained by the corporation, for which they are allowed the tolls both over and under it; and the crown gives three trees a year out of Windsor forest towards repairing it. The barge pier divides Berkshire from Buckinghamshire. There is a great trade here in malt, meal, and timber, which are carried in barges to London. Here is a gaol both for debtors and felons, a chapel dedicated to St. Andrew the apostle and St. Mary Magdalen, but no church, and an alms house, consisting of dwellings for eight poor men and their wives; each man has six pounds a year, and every second year each person has a new gown. It was endowed by James Smith, citizen and salter of London, and his wife, about 1589, and the Salters company of London are trustees.

The village of *Bray* is about a mile from Maidenhead, and is very famous, both on account of its antiquity, and a former vicar, who was twice a Papist, and twice a Protestant, in the reigns of Henry VIII. Edward VI. and the Queens Mary and Elizabeth.

READ-

READING.

This town is ſuppoſed to derive its name from *Redin*, the Britiſh word for Fern, which is ſaid to have grown here in great abundance. It is thirty-nine miles from London, is the county-town, and is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, and twelve burgeſſes. It contains three pariſh churches, and the ſtreets of this town are well built, and it is more ſpacious and populous than many cities. It is partly encompaſſed by the Thames, which juſt by it receives the river Kennet, that paſſes under ſeven bridges in the town and neighbourhood, and abounds with pike, eel, dace, and fine trout. It had anciently a caſtle, of which the Danes are ſaid to have been in poſſeſſion, when they drew a ditch between the Kennet and the Thames; and they retreated hither, after they had been routed, at a little diſtance from hence, by the Saxon King Ethelwolf; but in 872, they quitted it to the Saxons, who plundered and deſtroyed the town, which they repeated in 1006. But it recovered itſelf, and is ſaid to have been a borough in the reign of William the Conqueror. Its caſtle afterwards having been a refuge for King Stephen's party, was demoliſhed by King Henry II.

A magnificent abbey of flint-ſtone was founded here by King Henry I. which is ſaid to have equalled moſt of the abbies in England for its ſtructure and wealth; and its abbots ſat in the houſe of lord. It was ſuppreſſed ſoon after the Reformation; but the gate-houſe is ſtill pretty entire, and there are ſome remains of its walls eight feet thick.

Reading has a conſiderable trade in the country, but its chief traffic is with London; whither it ſends malt, meal, and timber, and receives back coals, ſalt, tobacco, grocery wares, and other commodities. The largeſt barges come up to the town-bridge, where there are commodious wharfs for clearing and loading them. The Kennet, which runs through the town, will bear a barge of more than an hundred tons, and is navigable almoſt to Newbury.—This town ſends two members to parliament; and there are four annual fairs held here; viz. on the 1ſt of February, the 25th of July, the 21ſt of September, and the 6th of November.

As ſome peaſants were digging ſome years ago, on a riſing ground, not far from Reading, they diſcovered a ſtratum of oyſter ſhells, lying on a bed of green ſand, and covered with a ſtratum of bluiſh clay. Many of the ſhells when they are

taken up, have both the valves lying together, and when the upper and under ſhell or valve are found ſeparate, it appears, upon comparing and joining them, that they orginally belonged to each other. This ſtratum has been found to extend through five or ſix acres of ground.

NEWBURY.

This town is fifty-ſix miles from London, and is pleaſantly ſituated on the river Kennet, which runs through the town; the ſtreets are ſpacious, and the market-place, in which there is a guild-hall, is large. The town is ſuppoſed to have riſen out of the ruins of the antient *Spinæ*, a town mentioned by Antoninus in his Itinerary: for there is a little village within leſs than a mile, that is ſtill called *Spene*, which the inhabitants of Newbury own to be the mother-place, and part of Newbury itſelf is called Spenham Land.

The town has been very famous for the manufacture of broad cloth, but that trade is now much on the decline here. So much broad cloth was made here formerly, that in the reign of Henry VIII. here flouriſhed John Winſcomb, commonly called Jack of Newbury, one of the greateſt clothiers that ever was in England. He kept an hundred looms in his houſe; and in the expedition to Flodden-field againſt the Scots, he marched thither in defence of his country at the head of an hundred of his own men, all cloathed and armed at his own expence. He behaved in that engagement with diſtinguiſhed bravery; and afterwards returned to his native place, and at his own expence re-built the greateſt part of the pariſh-church of this town. The houſe in which he lived remained till about a century ago, when it was divided into tenements, and let out to different tenants.

The town-hall at Newbury is an ancient edifice, built of brick, and ſupported by pillars; and in this hall the inhabitants have fixed up a fine hiſtorical picture of the ſurrender of Calais, which was painted by Mr. Pine in the year 1762, and for which he received the firſt premium of one hundred pounds given by the Society of Arts.——There is an almshouſe here, ſaid to have been originally founded by King John, for ſix poor men, and ſix poor women; each perſon is allowed twenty-one pence per week, four ſhillings each on the fair day, thirteen ſhillings and four pence at Chriſtmas, an hundred faggots of wood yearly, and a new coat or gown every two years.

There

There are ſeveral agreeable villages in the neighbourhood of Newbury, particularly *Enbourne*, which is remarkable for the following ſingular and whimſical cuſtom of the manor. The widow of every copyhold tenant is intitled to the whole copyhold eſtate of her huſband ſo long as ſhe continues unmarried and chaſte; if ſhe marries, ſhe loſes her widow's eſtate without remedy; but if ſhe is guilty of incontinence, ſhe may recover her forfeiture, by riding into court on the next court day, mounted on a black ram, with her face towards the tail, and the tail in her hand, and repeating the following lines:

"Here I am, mounted on a black ram,
"Like a whore as I am;
"And for my *crincum crancum*
"Have loſt my *bincum bancum*,
"And for my tail's game,
"Am brought to this worldly ſhame,
"Therefore, good Mr. Steward, let me have my lands again."

At *Hamſtead Marſhall*, which is not far from Newbury, Lord Craven has a handſome ſeat and park. And at a little diſtance from hence is the caſtle of Donnington, pleaſantly ſituated, at the brow of a hill, near the ſmall river Lambourn, and celebrated for being the reſidence of our fomous Engliſh poet, Geoffrey Chaucer. Since the beginning of the preſent century, there was a tree in the park, under which, according to a traditionary report, he uſed to compoſe his poems.

HUNGERFORD

Is a ſmall market-town, about eight miles from Newbury, and ſixty-four from London. It is governed by a conſtable, who is choſen yearly, and is lord of the manor, which he holds immediately of the King, for the time being. The church is an handſome Gothic ſtructure. They have a horn here that holds about a quart, and which appears by an inſcription on it, to have been given to this town by the famous John of Gaunt, ſon of K. Edward III. together with a grant of the royal fiſhery, in a part of the river which abounds with good trout and craw-fiſh.

LAM-

LAMBOURNE.

This is a ſmall town, ſixty-eight miles from London, which derives its name from the little river Lambourne which riſes near it. It is not a place of much note, but the adjacent country is pleaſant. There is an hoſpital here for ten poor men, which was founded in 1502. This town is moſt remarkable for its rivulet, which is always higheſt in ſummer, but ſo low in winter, as to be almoſt entirely loſt.

At a little diſtance from hence, is the moſt remarkable curioſity in Berkſhire. This is the rude figure of a White Horſe, which takes up near an acre of ground, on the ſide of a green hill. A horſe is known to have been the Saxon ſtandard; and ſome have ſuppoſed that this figure was made by Hengiſt, one of the Saxon Kings; but Mr. Wiſe, the author of a letter on this ſubject to Dr. Mead, publiſhed in the year 1738, brings ſeveral arguments to ſhew that it was made by the order of Alfred, in the reign of his brother Ethelred, as a monument of his victory gained over the Danes, in the year 871, near Aſhdown, now called Aſhen or Aſhbury Park, which is at preſent one of the ſeats of Lord Craven, and at a little diſtance from this hill. Others however ſuppoſe it to have been partly the effect of accident, and partly the work of ſhepherds, who obſerving a rude figure, ſomewhat reſembling a horſe, as there are in the veins of wood and ſtone many figures that reſemble trees, caves, and other objects, reduced it by degrees to a more regular figure. But however this be, it has been the cuſtom immemorial for the neighbouring peaſants to aſſemble on a certain day about Midſummer, and clear away the weeds from this white whorſe, and trim the edges to preſerve its colour and ſhape; after which the evening is ſpent in mirth and feſtivity.—The hill on which this ſtands is called White Horſe Hill; and to the north of this hill there is a long valley reaching from the weſtern ſide of the county, where it borders upon Wiltſhire, as far as Wantage, which from this hill is called the Vale of White Horſe, and is the moſt fertile part of the county.

FARRINGDON

Is a neat clean town, ſixty-eight miles from London, and pleaſantly ſituated on a hill near the river Thames. The church is a venerable Gothic ſtructure, and has painted glaſs

glaſs in the windows, beſides many antient monuments.—Henry Pye, Eſq; has an handſome ſeat here.

WANTAGE.

This is an agreeable market-town, ſixty miles from London, and eight from Farringdon; and is pleaſantly ſituated in a fine ſporting country. This place was formerly a royal villa, and is ſaid to have been the birth place of King Alfred.—The country adjoining to Wantage is extremely pleaſant.

EAST-ILSLEY.

This is a ſmall market town, fifty-four miles from London, agreeably ſituated in a ſporting country. The houſes in the town are neat, and the adjoining lands well cultivated. The market, which is held on Wedneſday, is ſaid to be the greateſt for ſheep of any in England.

About three miles eaſtward of Ilſley is a village called *Aldworth*, a place of great antiquity, where was formerly a caſtle, which was deſtroyed in the reign of King Edward III. The pariſh church is a venerable Gothic ſtructure, and has in it ſeveral antient monuments; among theſe are nine, with the figures of the deceaſed cut in ſtone, and lying in a ſleeping poſture; five of which are ſuppoſed to have been knights templars. The church-yard is extremely rural, and has in it one of the fineſt yew-trees in England, being no leſs than twenty-ſeven feet in circumference.

WALLINGFORD

Is forty-ſix miles from London, and is a large town, and makes a good appearance. It is ſituated on the river Thames, over which it has a ſtone bridge, that is 309 yards long, having nineteen arches, and four draw-bridges. It has a market-houſe, over which is the town-hall. The chief ſupport of this town is the malt trade. There was formerly a famous caſtle here, ſome remains of which are yet to be ſeen.

Within a mile of this town is a farm called *Choſely*, the lands belonging to which lie all together, and are let at one thouſand pounds per annum; and there is one barn on the eſtate, the roof of which is three hundred and ſix feet long.—This uſed to be conſidered as the largeſt farm in England, but it is probably not ſo now, ſince the pernicious practice of engroſſing and enlarging farms has become ſo prevalent. Some artful reaſoners have, indeed, endeavoured to prove, that large farms

are moſt advantageous to the community; but the arguments brought in ſupport of this opinion, appear to be extremely ſophiſtical; and it is certain, that an equitable and benevolent government would chuſe to encourage that mode of cultivating the earth, that was moſt favourable to population, and by which the greateſt number of induſtrious families might be comfortably ſupported; which cannot be the caſe when the monopolization of farms becomes general, and which therefore may juſtly be conſidered, for this and various other reaſons, as a moſt pernicious practice.

A B I N G D O N

Is ſituated on a branch of the Thames, at the diſtance of fifty-ſix miles from London. It is a large, populous, and flouriſhing town: the ſtreets are well paved, and center in a ſpacious area, where the market is held. In the center of this area is the market-houſe; which is a curious building of aſhler-work, ſupported on lofty pillars, with a large hall of free-ſtone above, in which the aſſizes are frequently held, and other public buſineſs tranſacted. There was formerly a very magnificent abbey here, which was deſtroyed at the general diſſolution of the monaſteries. Here are two pariſh churches, both of which are ſaid to have been built by one of the abbots of Abingdon. There is alſo here a well endowed free-ſchool, and two alms-houſes for poor people of both ſexes. The trade carried on by the inhabitants of this town chiefly conſiſts in dealing in corn, and preparing malt, which is conveyed down the river in barges to London.

O X F O R D.

This famous city is fifty-five miles from London, and is a place of great antiquity, but is chiefly diſtinguiſhed for its illuſtrious univerſity. It is ſituated on the banks of the Thames, near its confluence with ſeveral other rivers, in a beautiful plain, and a ſweet air. It is encompaſſed by meadows and corn-fields. The meadows, which are chiefly to the ſouth and weſt, are about a mile in extent; beyond which are hills of a moderate height, bounding the proſpect. The eaſtern proſpect is likewiſe bounded by hills at a little diſtance. The north is open to corn-fields and encloſures for many miles together, without an hill to intercept the free current of air, which purifies it from noxious vapours. When this city

was



A View of the City of Oxford.

was firſt fortified does not appear; but the walls now remaining are ſuppoſed to have been raiſed upon ſome former foundation about the time of the Norman invaſion. Robert D'Oilie erected the caſtle, at the command of William the Norman in 1071. Its maſſy ruins ſhew its ſtrength and extent.

Oxford, including the ſuburbs, is a mile in length from eaſt to weſt, and almoſt as much in breadth from north to ſouth, being three miles in circumference; but it is of an irregular figure, and ſeveral void ſpaces are comprehended within theſe limits, beſides the many courts and gardens belonging to the reſpective colleges. The city, properly ſo called, which was formerly ſurrounded by a wall, with baſtions, at about one hundred and fifty feet diſtance from each other, is of an oblong form. There are ſtill ſome conſiderable remains of the old walls.

The ſtreets of Oxford are ſpacious, clean, and regular; the private buildings in general are neat, and the public ones ſumptuous. There is a cathedral here, and thirteen pariſh churches. The city is governed by a mayor, a high-ſteward, a recorder, four aldermen, eight aſſiſtants, a town-clerk, other officers, and twenty-four common councilmen. The mayor, for the time being, officiates at the coronation of our Kings, in the buttery, and has a large gilt bowl and cover for his fee. The magiſtracy of this city is ſubjected to the chancellor or vice-chancellor of the univerſity, in all affairs of moment, even relating to the city; and the vice-chancellor every year adminiſters an oath to the magiſtrates and ſheriffs, that they will maintain the privileges of the univerſity. And on the 10th of February annually, the mayor and ſixty-two of the chief citizens ſolemnly pay each one penny, at St. Mary's church here, in lieu of a great fine laid upon the city, in the reign of King Edward III. when ſixty-two of the ſtudents were murdered by the citizens.

The town-hall here is a neat modern edifice, in which the aſſizes for the county, and the city and county ſeſſions are held; and there are in this city five or ſix charity-ſchools, in which about three hundred children are taught and cloathed. There are two ſtone bridges here over the Thames, which is navigable by barges to the city, from whence large quantities of malt are ſent by barges to London.

THE UNIVERSITY

Is one of the nobleſt in the world, eſpecially for the opulency of its endowments, and the conveniency of its manſions for ſtudy. It conſiſts of twenty colleges, and five halls, and is a corporation governed by a chancellor, a high-ſteward, a vice-chancellor, two proctors, a public orator, a keeper of the archives, a regiſter, three eſquire-beadles, carrying ſilver maces gilt and wrought, and three yeomen beadles, with plain ſilver maces, and a verger with a ſilver rod. The chancellor is uſually a peer of the realm, he is the ſupreme governor of the univerſity, and is choſen by the ſtudents in convocation, and continues in his office for life. The high-ſteward is named by the Chancellor, but muſt be approved by the univerſity. His office, which continues alſo for life, is to aſſiſt the chancellor in the government of the univerſity, and to hear and determine capital cauſes, according to the laws of the land, and the privileges of the univerſity. The vice-chancellor, who is always in orders, and the head of ſome college, is appointed by the chancellor, and approved by the univerſity; he is the chancellor's deputy, and exerciſes the power of his ſubſtituent, by governing the univerſity according to its ſtatutes; he chuſes four pro-vice-chancellors out of the heads of colleges to officiate in his abſence. The two proctors are maſters of arts, and are choſen annually in turn out of the ſeveral colleges and halls. Their buſineſs is to keep the peace, puniſh diſorders, inſpect weights and meaſures, appoint ſcholaſtic exerciſes, and the taking of degrees. The public orator writes letters in the name of the univerſity, and harrangues princes and other great perſonages who viſit it. The keeper of the archives has the cuſtody of the charters and records; and the regiſter records all the public tranſactions of the univerſity in convocation.

Beſides the public officers of the univerſity which have been mentioned, there are particular and private officers in all colleges and halls, to ſee that due order and diſcipline be obſerved and kept up, lectures read, diſputations performed, and all the liberal ſciences read and taught, as logic, phyſics, ethics, metaphyſics, aſtronomy, geography, and geometry, &c. of which alſo there are public lecturers and profeſſors.

The degrees taken in the univerſity are in divinity, law, phyſic, and arts; four years are required for taking a bachelor of arts degrees; ſeven years for a maſter of arts; fourteen

fourteen years for a bachelor of divinity; eighteen years for a doctor of divinity; ſeven years for a bachelor of laws, phyſic, or muſic; and twelve years for a doctor of laws, phyſic, or muſic.

As to the antiquity of Oxford, it is ſuppoſed to have been a conſiderable place even in the time of the Romans; and Camden ſays, that "wiſe antiquity did, even in the Britiſh "age, conſecrate this place to the muſes." Before the time of King Alfred it was ſtiled an univerſity; and the beſt hiſtorians admit, that this moſt excellent prince was only a reſtorer of learning here. Alfred built three colleges here; one for divinity, another for philoſophy, and a third for grammar.

The number of officers, fellows, and ſcholars, maintained at preſent by the revenues of this univerſity, is about 1000, and the number of ſuch ſcholars as live at their own charge is uſually about 2000; the whole amounting to 3000 perſons, beſides a great number of inferior officers and ſervants, belonging to the ſeveral colleges and halls, which have each their ſtatutes and rules for government, under their reſpective heads, with fellows and tutors. Here are four terms every year for public exerciſes, lectures, and diſputations, and ſet days and hours when the profeſſors of every faculty read their lectures, and in ſome of the colleges are public lectures, to which all perſons are admitted.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Theſe, with one ſide of the Library on the weſt, form within a ſpacious ſquare of 105 feet. The principal front of the ſchools on the outſide is about 175 feet in length, in the middle whereof is a great gate, with a magnificent tower over it, which is Sir Henry Savile's library; and the higheſt apartments of the tower are uſed for aſtronomical obſervations, and ſome experiments in philoſophy; and from thence called the Obſervatory.

The Schools are as follows, 1. the Divinity ſchool; 2. the Anatomy ſchool; 3. the Natural Philoſophy ſchool; 4. the Moral Philoſophy ſchool; 5. the Law ſchool; 6. the Hiſtory ſchool; 7. the Language ſchool; 8. the Geometry ſchool; 9. the Metaphyſic ſchool; 10. the Logic ſchool; 11. the Muſic ſchool; a new one was built in Holywell, in 1747; 12. the Aſtronomy ſchool; 13. the Rhetoric ſchool.

In theſe public ſchools the profeſſors are to read their lectures in the ſeveral ſciences every day in the week during term-

term-time, except Sundays. In which ſchools likewiſe all ſcholars are obliged, by the ſtatutes of the univerſity, at ſuch and ſuch certain times to perform ſuch and ſuch exerciſes for their ſeveral degrees, as diſputations, declamations, examinations, lectures, &c.

Three ſides of the upper ſtory of the Schools, form one entire room, which is called the PICTURE GALLERY. It is furniſhed with the portraits of many learned and famous men, ſeveral large cabinets of medals, and ſome caſes of books; being intended as a continuation of the Bodleian library. Among the paintings, are portraits of King Alfred, William of Wykeham, Biſhop of Wincheſter, Sir Thomas Bodley, Dr. Wallis, Sir Henry Savile, Sir Hans Sloane, Dr. Halley, Samuel Butler, Archbiſhop Uſher, Hugo Grotius, Joſeph Scalagier, Iſaac Caſaubon, Meric Caſaubon, Eraſmus by Hans Holbein, Franciſcus Junius by Vandyke, John Selden, Montaigne, Father Paul, Dr. Edward Pococke, Galilæo, Chaucer, Dr. Henry Hammond, Sir Thomas More, Dr. Samuel Clarke, Samuel Bochart, Sir William Dugdale, Michael Angelo, Ben Jonſon, Pope, Prior, Swift, the Earl of Clarendon, Dr. Radcliffe, Lord Falkland, Mr. Locke, and many other eminent and learned perſons.

The *Arundel marbles* are placed to advantage in a large apartment on the north ſide of the ſchools. They conſiſt of ſome very antient monuments, both Greek and Latin, procured from the Levant, and were moſt of them the gift of Henry Howard, Earl of Arundel.——In the Logic and Moral Philoſophy ſchool is alſo placed a fine collection of ſtatues, buſtos, and marble ſculptures, which were many years at Eaſton, the ſeat of the Earl of Pomfret, and were preſented to the Univerſity of Oxford by the late Counteſs of Pomfret.

The UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, uſually called the BODLEIAN LIBRARY, from Sir Thomas Bodley its principal founder, is a large, lofty ſtructure, in the form of a Roman H, and is ſaid to contain the greateſt number of books of any library in Europe, (except perhaps the Vatican) a catalogue whereof is printed in two volumes, folio. The original library has been prodigiouſly increaſed by many large and valuable collections of Greek and Oriental manuſcripts, as well as other choice and curious books.—Among a great number of moſt valuable books in this library, are the following:—The four Goſpels in Greek, above 1000 years old, in large capital letters.

letters.—The four Goſpels, a Latin manuſcript, one thouſand four hundred years old, ſuppoſed to have been one of thoſe books which were brought over into Britain by St. Auguſtine. The Acts of the Apoſtles, in Latin and Greek, thought to be as old as the laſt, and to have formerly belonged to Venerable Bede.

The RATCLIFFE LIBRARY is ſituated between St. Mary's church and the public ſchools, and was built at the ſole expence of that eminent phyſician Dr. John Radcliffe, who bequeathed forty thouſand pounds for this purpoſe. It is a ſumptuous pile of building, ſtanding upon arcades, which circularly diſpoſed, incloſe a ſpacious dome, in the center of which is the library itſelf, and into which there is an aſcent by a flight of ſpiral ſteps, well executed. The library, which is a compleat pattern of elegance and majeſty in building, is adorned with fine compartments of ſtucco. It is incloſed by circular ſeries of arches, beautified with feſtoons, and ſupported by pilaſters of the Ionic order; behind theſe arches are formed two circular galleries above and below, where the books are diſpoſed in elegant cabinets; the compartments of the cieling in the upper gallery are finely ſtuccoed; the pavement is of two colours, and made of a peculiar ſpecies of ſtone brought from Hart's Foreſt in Germany; and over the door is a ſtatue of the founder. The finiſhing and decorations of this Attic edifice are all in the higheſt taſte imaginable.

The THEATRE at Oxford is another moſt magnificent ſtructure, which was erected by Sir Chriſtopher Wren, at the expence of Archbiſhop Sheldon. The building is in the form of a Roman D; the front of it, which ſtands oppoſite to the divinity ſchool, is adorned with Corinthian pillars, and ſeveral other decorations. The greateſt curioſity of this theatre is its flat roof, which has no pillars to ſupport it, being entirely kept up with braces and ſcrews, and whoſe main beams are made of ſeveral pieces of timber, from ſide wall to ſide wall, eighty feet over one way, and ſeventy the other, whoſe lockages are in ſeveral reſpects perhaps not to be paralleled in the world; and is the ſubject of an excellent mathematical treatiſe, written by the learned Dr. Wallis. The inſide of this flat roof is decorated with allegorical painting. In this edifice are kept the public acts, called the *Comitia* or *Encænia*; at which ſolemn times, for the preſervation of order, there are appointed, beſides the curators of the theatre, ſeveral proctors of it, who

are

are to take care that the public peace is kept undiſturbed, and that all perſons be placed in their proper ſtations. When the theatre is properly filled, the vice-chancellor being ſeated in the center of the ſemi-circular part, the noblemen and doctors on his right and left hand, the proctors and curators in their robes, the maſters of arts, batchelors, and under graduates, in their reſpective habits and places, together with ſtrangers of both ſexes, it makes a moſt auguſt appearance.

On the weſt of the Theatre is the ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM, which is an handſome edifice, that was finiſhed in 1682, by Sir Chriſtopher Wren, and is remarkable for its ſymmetry and elegance. The eaſtern portico is highly finiſhed in the Corinthian order, and adorned with variety of characteriſtical embelliſhments. This Muſæum is a famous repoſitory of natural and artificial rarities, and of ſeveral Roman antiquities, as altars, lamps, medals, &c. and the building was erected at the expence of the Univerſity, at the requeſt of Elias Aſhmole, Eſq; who placed here the large collection of rarities which he had collected and purchaſed. And this collection has been ſince greatly enriched by ſeveral ample and valuable benefactions. The principal natural curioſities conſiſt of the bodies, horns, bones, &c. of animals, preſerved dry, or in ſpirits; curious and numerous ſpecimens of metals, minerals, ſhells, ores, and foſſils. On the firſt floor of this building lectures are read in experimental philoſophy; and, in proper apartments underneath, is an elaboratory for courſes of chemiſtry and anatomy. There are three ſmall libraries in this edifice, the firſt called Aſhmole's ſtudy, which contains his printed books and manuſcripts relating to heraldry and antiquity, and the manuſcripts of Sir William Dugdale; the ſecond contains Dr. Liſter's library; and the third that of Anthony Wood, with his laborious collections, chiefly relating to this city and univerſity.

On the other ſide of the theatre, and north of the ſchools, ſtands the CLARENDON PRINTING HOUSE, built in the year 1711, with the profits ariſing from the ſale of Lord Clarendon's Hiſtory; the copy of which was given to the Univerſity by the Lords Clarendon and Rocheſter, ſons of that nobleman. It is a grand edifice, one hundred and fifteen feet in length; and conſiſts of two lofty ſtories. Towards the ſtreet, is a magnificent portico in the Doric order; the height of the columns being equal to the two ſtories. This is anſwered on the oppoſite ſide, next the ſchools, by a frontiſpiece ſupported by three

quarter

quarter columns of the ſame dimenſions; and the Doric entablature encompaſſes the whole building. On the top, are ſtatues of the nine Muſes; and over the entrance on the ſouth ſide a ſtatue of the Earl of Clarendon. As we enter on this ſide, on the right hand, are the apartments where bibles and common prayer-books are printed, under the privilege and appointment of the univerſity. On the left, is the univerſity-preſs. Beſides the apartments aſſigned for the compoſitors, preſſmen, &c. there is one with a lobby, or ante-chamber, where the heads of houſes and delegates meet, which is well proportioned and highly finiſhed. In this room is a very good picture of Queen Anne, by Sir Godfrey Kneller.

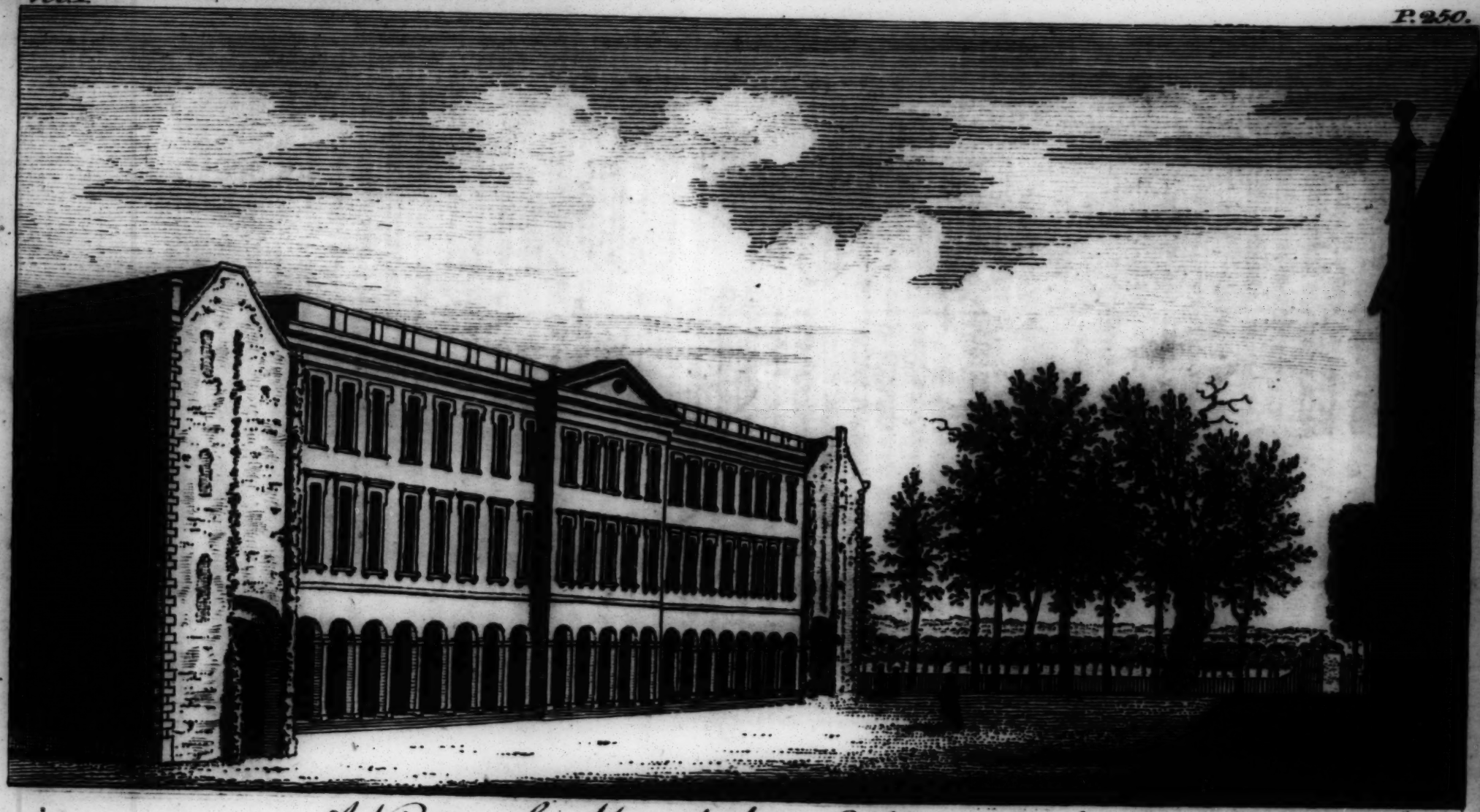
The PHYSIC GARDEN is ſituated on the ſouth of Magdalen college, and was given to the univerſity by Henry D'Anvers, Earl of Danby, who purchaſed the ground, containing five acres, of Magdalen college, ſurrounded it with a lofty wall, and erected, next to the ſtreet, a parapet, with iron paliſades thereon. The piers which ſupport theſe and other iron-work, are properly ornamented with vaſes of fruits and flowers of various kinds, ſerving as a fence to the green-court, through which we paſs to the gateway; the deſign of which is attributed to Inigo Jones, and is juſtly eſteemed an elegant piece of architecture. In the center over the arch is a buſt of the founder, Lord Danby; and on the left hand of the entrance is a ſtatue of Charles I. and on the right hand, one of Charles II. The garden is divided into four quarters, with a broad walk down the middle, a croſs walk, and one all round. Near the entrance, are two elegant and uſeful green-houſes, one on the right, the other on the left, built by the univerſity for *Exotics*, of which there is a conſiderable collection. In the quarters, within the yew hedges, is the greateſt variety of ſuch plants as require no artificial heat to nouriſh them, all ranged in the proper claſſes, and numbered. Eaſtward of the garden, without the walls, is an excellent hot-houſe; where tender plants, ſuch whoſe native ſoil lies between the Tropics, are raiſed and brought to great perfection; viz. the anana or pine apple, the plantain, the coffee ſhrub, the cinnamon, the creeping cereus, and many others. This uſeful foundation has been much improved by the late Dr. Sherrard, who brought from Smyrna a valuable collection of Botanical Books, and a valuable *Hortus Siccus*. The eaſt end of the building is the apartment for the profeſſor, whoſe ſalary is paid out of the intereſt of three thouſand pounds, given by Dr. Sherrard

rard for that purpoſe. An aſſiſtant to the profeſſor is provided by the univerſity.——We now proceed to give ſome account of the ſeveral Colleges and Halls of this famous univerſity.

MAGDALEN COLLEGE is ſituated without the eaſt gate of the city, on the bank of the river Cherwell; a Doric portal, (decorated with a ſtatue of the founder, and other figures,) leads to the weſt front of this college, which is a ſtriking ſpecimen of the Gothic manner. The firſt court is a venerable old quadrangle, ſurrounded by a cloiſter, on the ſouth ſide of which are the chapel and hall; the windows of the chapel are finely painted; the hall is a ſtately Gothic room, adorned with fine paintings. From this court there is a narrow paſſage on the north, that leads to a beautiful opening, one ſide of which is bounded by a noble and elegant edifice, in the modern taſte, conſiſting of three ſtories, and three hundred feet in length. This college is remarkable for a moſt beautiful ſituation, and a charming proſpect. It was founded in the reign of Henry VI. by William Patten, commonly called William of Wainfleet, Biſhop of Wincheſter. It conſiſts of a preſident, forty fellows, thirty demies, ſchool-maſter, and uſher, four chaplains, an organiſt, eight clerks, and ſixteen choriſters, and three readers of divinity, and natural and moral philoſophy. The whole number of ſtudents, including gentlemen commoners, is about one hundred and twenty.

The Grove belonging to this College, which is laid out in walks, and well planted with trees, ſeems perfectly adapted to indulge contemplation; it has in it about forty head of deer. Beſides the walks which are in the grove, there is a very delightful, and much frequented one, round a meadow containing about thirteen acres, ſurrounded by the ſeveral branches of the Cherwell, from whence it is called the *Waterwalks*. It is ſhaded with tall trees, and there is an agreeable view of the adjacent country.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE is ſituated on the north ſide of the High-ſtreet, oppoſite Univerſity College. The front of this College is in the ſtile of the palace of Luxemburgh, and is at once elegant and magnificent: in the middle of it a cupola, under which is a ſtatue of the late Queen Caroline. This beautiful college is one entire piece of well executed modern architecture; the whole area on which it ſtands is an oblong ſquare, 300 feet in length, and 220 in breadth; which area being



A View of Magdalen College, Oxford.

being divided by the hall and chapel, is formed into two courts; the firſt, or ſouth court, is one hundred and forty feet in length, and one hundred and thirty in breadth; it is ſurrounded by a beautiful cloyſter, except upon the north ſide, which is formed by the chapel and hall, and finely finiſhed in the Doric order: in the center, over a portico leading to the north court, ſtands a handſome cupola, ſupported by eight Ionic columns; the north court is 130 feet long, and 90 broad. On the weſt ſtands the library, which is a fine pile of building, of the Corinthian order, upwards of one hundred feet in length. This college was founded by Robert de Egleſfield, chaplain to Queen Phillippa, wife to King Edward III. That princeſs was a benefactreſs to this college, and it was in compliment to her that it was ſtiled Queen's College. Its revenues have been much increaſed by ſeveral benefactors; and its members are one provoſt, ſixteen fellows, two chaplains, eight taberdars (ſo called from *Taberdum*, a ſhort gown which they formerly wore) ſixteen ſcholars, two clerks, and forty exhibitioners; eight fellows, and four ſcholars, ſupported by an eſtate left to the college by Mr. Mitchell, of Richmond; beſides a great number of maſters, bachelors, gentlemen commoners, and other ſtudents; in all about 110.—Among other ſingular cuſtoms in this college, one is, that of calling the ſtudents to dinner or ſupper every day by the ſound of a trumpet; and another is, having a Boar's head on Chriſtmas day, uſhered in very ſolemnly with an old Monkiſh ſong.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE is a ſpacious, ſuperb, and uniform ſtructure, began in 1634, at the expence of Charles Greenwood, formerly a fellow here, and carried on by Sir Simon Bennet, and completed by Dr. John Radcliffe. The magnificent north front of this college is extended two hundred and ſixty feet along the ſouth ſide of a ſtreet called the High-ſtreet, having two ſtately portals with a tower over each; the weſtern portal leads to an handſome Gothic quadrangle, one hundred feet ſquare; on the ſouth ſide of the eaſtern quadrangle are the chapel, and hall; there is alſo a third court of three ſides, each of which are about eighty feet.—The Hall, at the entrance of which is a ſtatue of King Alfred, has been lately fitted up in a very beautiful Gothic ſtyle, and is a moſt complete room of the kind.

The colleges, or halls, which were erected by King Alfred in the year 872, were ſituated near, or on the ſpot where this college now ſtands; and that excellent Prince gave the

ſtudents in his ſeminaries certain penſions iſſuing from the Exchequer. But theſe halls were ſoon alienated to the citizens of Oxford, and their penſions were ſuppreſſed about the reign of William the Norman. But in 1219, William archdeacon of Durham purchaſed of the citizens, one of the halls which had been originally erected by Alfred, and endowed it with lands. A ſociety being thus eſtabliſhed, many other benefactors improved the revenues and buildings. This college now has a maſter, twelve fellows, ſeventeen ſcholars, and many other ſtudents, amounting in the whole to above ſeventy.

ALL SOULS COLLEGE was founded in 1437, by Henry Chicheley, archbiſhop of Canterbury; and conſiſts chiefly of two courts. The firſt court is a Gothic edifice, 124 feet in length, and 72 in breadth; the chapel on the north ſide is a ſtately pile; and the hall, which forms one ſide of an area to the eaſt, is an elegant modern room, adorned with many portraits and buſts. Adjoining to the hall is the buttery, which is a well proportioned room, of an oval figure, and an arched ſtone roof, ornamented with curious workmanſhip. The ſecond court is a magnificent Gothic quadrangle, 172 feet in length, and 155 in breadth; on the ſouth are the chapel and hall, on the weſt a cloiſter, with a grand portico; on the eaſt two Gothic towers, in the center of a range of fine apartments, and on the north a library of uncommon magnificence. It is 200 feet in length, 30 in breadth, and 40 in height, and finiſhed in the moſt ſplendid and elegant manner. It was built at the expence of Coſonel Codrington, who laid out in it ſix thouſand pounds, and alſo gave his own library to be depoſited in it, and four thouſand pounds to purchaſe new books. This college maintains a warden, forty fellows, two chaplains, and nine ſcholarſhips.

BRAZEN-NOSE COLLEGE was founded in the year 1507, by the joint benefaction of William Smith, Biſhop of Lincoln, and Sir Richard Sutton. There is a brazen-noſe on the top of the College gate, which gives denomination to the college. The refectory is neat and convenient, adorned with pictures of the principal benefactors, and good paintings in glaſs of the two founders. It ſtands on the ſouth ſide of the firſt quadrangle, in the center of which is a ſtatue of Cain and Abel; the figures of which are very ſtriking. Through a paſſage on the left hand of the gate of the firſt quadrangle we



A View of All Souls College in Oxford.

we enter the ſecond. This is a more modern ſtructure than the other, and ſuppoſed to have been erected by Sir Chriſtopher Wren. This college maintains a principal, twenty fellows, thirty-two ſcholars, and four exhibitioners; and there are about forty ſtudents beſides.

HERTFORD COLLEGE ſtands oppoſite to the grand gate of the public ſchools, and conſiſts of one irregular court, which has been lately beautified, from a fund raiſed for that purpoſe. Part of this court conſiſts of a few modern buildings, in the ſtile of which the whole college is to be rebuilt, according to a plan conſiſting of one quadrangle, projected in the year 1747. This college conſiſts of a principal, two ſenior fellows or tutors, junior fellows or aſſiſtants, thirty under-graduate-ſtudents, and four ſcholars.

NEW COLLEGE was founded by the famous William of Wykeham, Biſhop of Winchester, in the year 1375. It has been called New College from its firſt foundation, being at that time highly regarded for its extent and grandeur. The firſt court is 168 feet in length, and 129 in breadth; in the center of which is a ſtatue of Minerva. The north ſide, which conſiſts of the chapel and hall, is a venerable ſpecimen of Gothic magnificence; the two upper ſtories of the eaſt ſide form the library, and on the weſt are the lodgings of the warden. The chapel, for beauty and grandeur, exceeds all in the univerſity; and near it is a cloiſter, 146 feet in length on two ſides, and 105 the other two. Contiguous to it on the north, is a large and lofty tower, with ten bells. From the firſt quadrangle there is a paſſage into another, called Garden-court, the beautiful area of which, by means of a ſucceſſion of retiring wings, diſplays itſelf gradually in approaching the garden, from which it is ſeparated by an iron paliſade, 136 feet in length.

On the north ſide of the chapel is preſerved the croſier of the founder, which is uſually ſhewn to ſtrangers; a well preſerved piece of antiquity, and almoſt the only one in the kingdom. It is of ſilver gilt, and near ſeven feet hight, finely worked and embelliſhed in the Gothic taſte; and though it is near four hundred years old, it has loſt little of its original beauty.—In the garden of the college, there is a lofty artificial mount, encompaſſed with ſeveral hedges of juniper, adorned with trees cut into ſeveral ſhapes, with ſtone ſteps and winding walks up to the top, and the top encompaſſed with rails and ſeats,

and

and a tree growing in the middle. Here are alſo ſhady walks, arbours, and a bowling green.—The members of this college are one warden, ſeventy fellows, ten chaplains, three clerks, ſixteen choriſters, and one ſexton, together with many gentlemen commoners.

WADHAM COLLEGE was founded by Nicholas Wadham, Eſq; and built, in purſuance of his will, by Dorothy his widow, in 1613. It is one of the moſt regular, uniform, and beautiful colleges belonging to this univerſity; and conſiſts of one noble quadrangle, which is near one hundred and thirty feet ſquare. The windows of the chapel, which ſtand on the eaſt ſide of the court, are beautifully painted; the eaſt window is admirably drawn by one Van Ling, a Dutchman; it repreſents the paſſion of our Saviour, and is ſaid to have coſt one thouſand five hundred pounds. The preſent members of this college are the warden, fifteen fellows, two chaplains, fifteen ſcholars, and ſixteen exhibitioners; the whole number of ſtudents being uſually about eighty. The ſcholars, out of whom the fellows are to be choſen, to be taken three out of Somerſetſhire, and three out of Eſſex; the reſt out of any county in Great Britain.

TRINITY COLLEGE was founded by Sir Thomas Pope, who was privy counſellor to Queen Mary, and an intimate friend to Sir Thomas More. It conſiſts of two courts; in the firſt court are the chapel, hall, library, and lodgings of the preſident. The chapel, which was built in 1695, is a fine ſtructure, richly and beautifully finiſhed. The ſecond court is an elegant pile, erected by Sir Chriſtopher Wren. The gardens of this college are extenſive, well laid out, and kept in good order. This college conſiſts of a preſident, twelve fellows, and twelve ſcholars. Theſe, with the other members, gentlemen commoners, commoners, &c. amount to near ſeventy.

BALIOL COLLEGE was founded in 1262, by Sir John Baliol of Brenard Caſtle in Yorkſhire, father of John Baliol, King of Scotland, and Devorguilla his conſort, daughter of Alexander III. King of Scotland. The college conſiſts chiefly of one court, which we enter by an handſome gate with a tower over it. The buildings about this court are antient, except the eaſt end. The members of this college are a maſter,

maſter, twelve fellows, fourteen ſcholars, and eighteen exhibitioners; the whole number of ſtudents amounting to about fifty.

St. JOHN'S COLLEGE is ſituated north of Baliol and Trinity colleges, having a terrace, with a row of lofty elms before it. The buildings of this college chiefly conſiſt of two large quadrangles, uniformly and elegantly built. In the firſt court are the chapel and hall on the north ſide, and the preſident's lodgings on the eaſt. The eaſt and weſt ſides of the ſecond court are ſupported by ſtately and beautiful piazzas. In the hall, which is very handſome, is a picture of St. John the Baptiſt, by Titian. The gardens belonging to this college are extremely agreeable, very extenſive, and well laid out. The college was founded by Sir Thomas White, Alderman of London; and the members of it are a preſident, fifty fellows, two chaplains, an organiſt, five ſinging-men, ſix choriſters, and two ſextons; the number of ſtudents of all ſorts being uſually about ſixty.

WORCESTER COLLEGE is ſituated on an eminence on the banks of the Thames. At entering into the college, we have the chapel and hall on each ſide, both of which are twenty-nine feet in breadth, and fifty five in length; theſe are juſt built. The library, which is furniſhed with a fine collection of books, is a magnificent Ionic edifice, on the weſt of the chapel and hall, and is one hundred feet in length, ſupported by a ſpacious cloiſter. According to a plan propoſed, this college is to conſiſt of a very ſpacious and elegant building; but it is not yet completed.—This was formerly called Glouceſter college, being a ſeminary for educating the novices of Glouceſter-monaſtery. But being ſuppreſſed at the Reformation, it was converted into a palace for the Biſhop of Oxford; but was ſoon after turned into an academical hall by Sir Thomas White, the founder of St. John's college; in which ſtate it continued, till Sir Thomas Cookes, a Worceſterſhire gentleman, procured for it a charter of incorporation, by the name of Worceſter college, and endowed it with fifteen thouſand pounds, for the maintenance of a provoſt and ſix fellows.—There are now a provoſt, twenty fellows, and eleven ſcholars; and the whole number of ſtudents is about forty.

EXETER COLLEGE was founded by Walter Stapleton, Biſhop of Exeter, in the reign of King Edward the Second. The

The building conſiſts chiefly of a handſome quadrangle; in the center of the front, which is 220 feet in length, there is a beautiful gate of ruſtic work, with a handſome tower. This college has a rector, twenty-five fellows, one ſcholar who is bible clerk, and two exhibitioners; the whole number of members about eighty.

JESUS COLLEGE was founded by Hugh Price, L. L. D. who began to build, and competently endowed it in 1571. But Queen Elizabeth is alſo ſometimes termed the founder of this college, becauſe ſhe granted the charter for it, and alſo timber for erecting it out of two adjoining foreſts. The buildings conſiſt of two courts, in the firſt of which is the hall, the chapel, and the principal's lodgings. The library is on the weſt ſide of the inner court, and the other three ſides are finiſhed in a decent and uniform manner. This college is chiefly for Welchmen, and conſiſts of a principal, nineteen fellows, and eighteen ſcholars, beſides a conſiderable number of exhibitioners.

LINCOLN COLLEGE was founded by two of the Biſhops of Lincoln; one completing what the other left imperfect. It conſiſts of two quadrangular courts, and maintains a rector, fifteen fellows, twelve exhibitioners, and eight ſcholars, with a bible-clerk, beſides the independent members.

ORIEL COLLEGE chiefly conſiſts of one regular, uniform, well-built quadrangle. On the north ſide are the library and the provoſt's lodgings; on the eaſt the hall, and the entrance into the chapel, which runs eaſtward from thence and on the ſouth and weſt ſides are the chambers of the fellows and other ſtudents. King Edward II. was the titular founder of this college, but Adam de Brome, his almoner, was the real founder of it: for that prince did little more than grant licence to his almoner to build it. King Edward III. gave this ſociety a tenement called *Le Oriel*, on which ground the college now ſtands, and from whence it derives its name. The preſent members of this college are a provoſt, eighteen fellows and fourteen exhibitioners; the whole number of ſtudents of all ſorts being about eighty.

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE was founded by Richard Fox, Biſhop of Wincheſter, in 1516; and conſiſts of one quadrangle, an elegant pile of modern building, in which are pleaſant



Merton College, in Oxford, seen from the Meadows.

pleaſant and commodious rooms, and a cloiſter adjoining; and alſo a neat ſtructure, which looks eaſtward towards Merton college grove, in which are apartments appropriated to gentlemen commoners.

MERTON COLLEGE was founded by Walter de Merton, Lord High Chancellor of England in the reign of Henry the Third, and afterwards Biſhop of Rocheſter. This college is ſituated eaſt of Corpus Chriſti, and conſiſts of three courts. The largeſt, or inner court, is about 100 feet long, and 100 broad. The chapel is at the weſt end of the firſt court, and is likewiſe the pariſh church of St. John Baptiſt de Merton. It is one of the largeſt, and beſt proportioned Gothic ſtructures in the univerſity. The gardens are very pleaſant, having the advantage of a proſpect of the adjacent walks and country from the ſouth terrace. This college maintains a warden, twenty-eight ſcholars, fourteen other ſcholars upon a different foundation, termed poſt-maſters, two chaplains, and two clerks; the whole number of ſtudents of all ſorts being about eighty.

CHRIST-CHURCH COLLEGE is the largeſt and moſt auguſt of all the collges in Oxford. It was firſt began to be founded by Cardinal Wolſey, on the ſcite of the priory of St. Frideſwide, but his diſgrace and death hindered him from compleating it. It was afterwards ſettled and endowed by King Henry VII. The front is very ſtately, extending to the length of 382 feet, and terminating at each end by two correſponding turrets. In the center is a grand Gothic entrance, the proportions and ornaments of which are remarkably magnificent; over it is a muſical tower, in which are ten muſical bells, and a great bell, and a great bell called Tom, that weighs near 17,000 pounds, and on the ſound of which, every night at nine o'clock, the ſtudents of the whole univerſity are enjoined by ſtatute to repair to their reſpective ſocieties. This college conſiſts of four quadrangles, one of which, diſtinguiſhed by the name of the Grand Quadrangle, is 264 by 261 feet in the clear. The greateſt part of the ſouth ſide is formed by the hall, which is conſiderably elevated above the reſt of the building; and, taken as a detached ſtructure, is a noble ſpecimen of antient magnificence. This room is one of the largeſt and moſt ſuperb of any in the kingdom; it contains eight windows on each ſide, is 123 feet in length, 40 feet in breadth, and its cieling is 30 feet high. The church of this college is ſituated at the eaſt end of the Grand Quadrangle, and is the cathedral of the dioceſe: it is an antient venerable ſtructure; the roof of the choir is a beautiful piece of ſtone work, and ſome of the windows are finely painted.

Peckwater-court, to the north-eaſt of the Grand Quadrangle, is perhaps the moſt elegant edifice in the univerſity; it has three uniform ſides, each of which has fifteen windows in front; and on the fourth ſide of this court is a magnificent library. Eaſt of Peckwater court is Canterbury-court, originally Canterbury college. It is a ſmall court, and chiefly remarkable for its antiquity. The fourth quadrangle is Chaplain's-court, which ſtands north-eaſt of Canterbury-court. This college maintains a dean, eight canons, one hundred and one ſtudents, eight chaplains, eight ſinging men, and as many choriſters, a ſchool-maſter, an uſher, an organiſt, and a teacher of muſic. There is a gravel-walk belonging to this college, planted on each ſide with elms, which is a quarter of a mile in length, and of a proportionable breadth. In the lower departments of the library of this college is depoſited a fine collection of paintings, the donation of General Guiſe. There is alſo a fine ſtatue of Mr. Locke, by Roubilliac.

PEMBROKE COLLEGE derives its name from the Earl of Pembroke, who was chancellor of the univerſity at the time it was erected. It was founded by Thomas Tiſdale, Eſq; and Richard Whitwicke, B. D. The building conſiſts of two courts; the firſt is a ſmall quadrangle, but neat and uniform; the ſecond court is an irregular area, and on one ſide of it ſtands the chapel; which is an elegant modern edifice of the Ionic order. In the garden, which is weſt of the chapel, is a pleaſant common room, and a terrace-walk. The preſent members of this college are a maſter, fourteen fellows, and thirty ſcholars and exhibitioners; the whole number of ſtudents being uſually about ſixty.

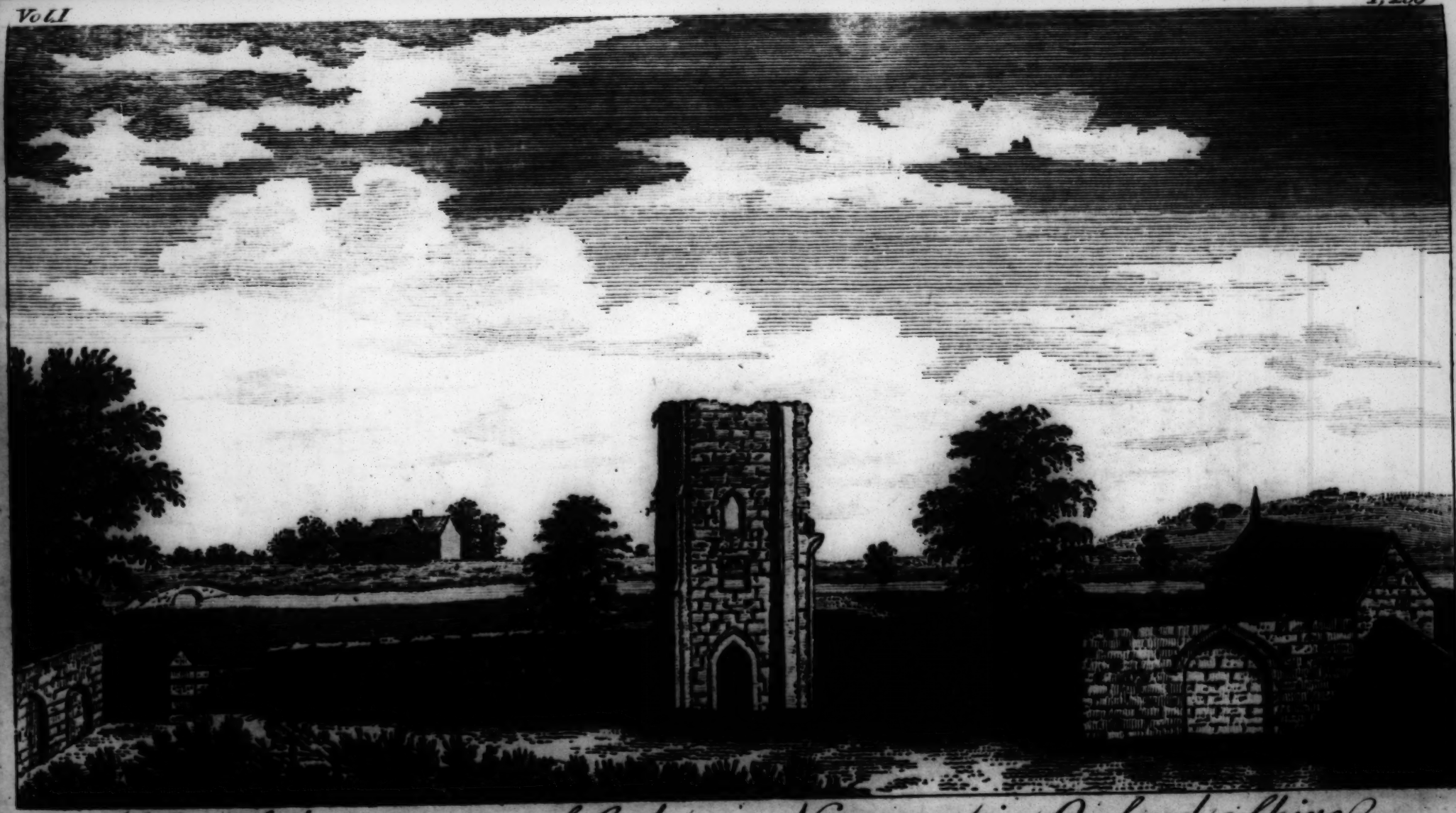
Having thus diſtinctly deſcribed the ſeveral Colleges of this celebrated univerſity, we now proceed to the Halls, which are five in number. There were formerly a great number of theſe academical Halls, or *Hotels*, where profeſſors or tutors reſided; but ſince the colleges were founded, they have been reduced to the preſent number. Theſe Halls are now endowed with eſtates and revenues as colleges are; yet ſome of them have exhibitions, or yearly ſtipends given towards the maintenance of certain ſtudents therein. The ſtudents pay an annual rent to the principals, and live at their own charge, as at the inns of court at London.

ST. ALBAN HALL adjoins to Merton College on the eaſt. It derives its name from Robert Abbot de St. Albans, a citizen

of



A View of Peckwater Court, Christ-Church College, Oxford.



A View of the remains of Godston Nunnery in Oxford Shire.

of Oxford, who conveyed this tenement to the nuns of Littlemore in Oxfordſhire, in the reign of King Henry the Third.

ST. EDMUND HALL is oppoſite to the eaſt ſide of Queen's college, to which it is dependant, and has about twenty-five ſtudents. The buildings were completed, and other conſiderable improvements made by Dr. Shaw, the late principal.

NEW-INN HALL ſtands at the weſt ſide of Oxford. Oppoſite to this Hall is the gateway of a college of monks of the Auguſtine order, in which Eraſmus reſided two years. He left an elegant Latin poem on his manner of living there.

ST. MARY HALL is ſituated north of Oriel college, near the High-ſtreet of Oxford. It conſiſts of one quadrangle, with a garden incloſed in the middle of it. It is formed by the principal's lodgings on the north, the hall and chapel on the ſouth, and on the eaſt and weſt by the chambers of the ſtudents.

MAGDALEN HALL is adjoining to Magdalen college, to which it is an appendage. The number of exhibitions given to this Hall, ſupplies it with many members; and it has in it a large grammar-ſchool as a nurſery to Magdalen college. The famous Lord Clarendon was educated at this Hall.

Before we quit Oxford, we ſhall obſerve, that at the north ſide of the city is the RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY, which was erected by Dr. Radcliffe's truſtees, and is ſupported by voluntary contribution. Such an inſtitution here has a natural tendency to be productive of very extenſive advantages; as, while it relieves the poor, it ſerves as a ſchool to thoſe who ſtudy the medical art.

GODSTOW.

This village is about two miles north from Oxford, and here are the ruins of a famous nunnery, which was founded in the reign of King Stephen for Benedictine nuns. Fair Roſamond, who was ſeduced by King Henry II. ſpent much of her time with theſe nuns, before her amour with that Prince, and afterwards ended her days with them. She is ſaid to have been the moſt beautiful woman of that age, and was the daughter of Lord Clifford, who was a great benefactor to this nunnery. There is great reaſon to believe that King Henry promiſed her marriage before he ſeduced her, though for political reaſons he afterwards eſpouſed Eleanor of Guinne. He had two ſons by Roſamond, but that lady ſhook off all connexions with the King, after he brought his Queen to England, and retired to Godſtow nunnery,

where ſhe ſpent the remainder of her days in penitence. Part of her monument in the church is ſtill ſtanding; and from the remains of the inſcription, it appears that ſhe lived to a conſiderable age; ſo that the ſtory of her being ſecreted in a bower near Woodſtock, and poiſoned by Queen Eleanor, ſeems to have been a mere fable.

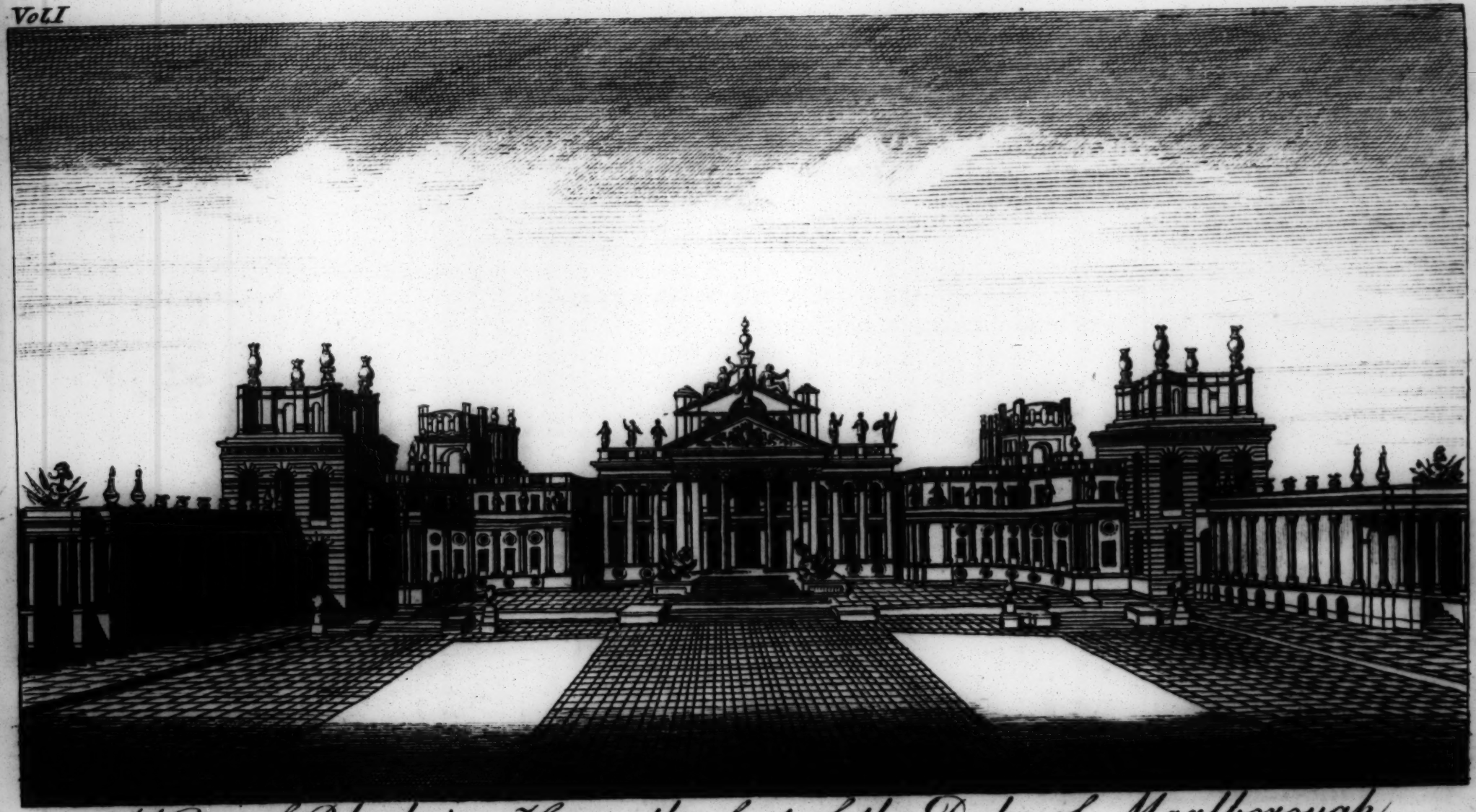
WOODSTOCK.

This is a town of great antiquity in Oxfordſhire, ſixty three miles from London. It is pleaſantly ſituated, and a town-houſe has been lately built here; and the place is noted for its manufactory of fine waſh leather gloves, and poliſhed ſteel watch chains, which are eſteemed all over Europe for the goodneſs of the workmanſhip. This is a corporation governed by the mayor, a recorder, four aldermen, and ſixteen common councilmen. It being on a great road, contains ſome very good inns; and there are here three alms-houſes, and a ſchool, which was founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by Richard Cromwell, citizen and ſkinner of London. This town ſends two members to parliament, who are elected by the burgeſſes and freemen. There is a houſe in this town which is ſaid to have been the birth-place of our celebrated Poet Chaucer; but this ſeems to be an erroneous tradition, as there is the greateſt reaſon to believe that he was born in London.

BLENHEIM HOUSE

Is the magnificent ſeat of the Duke of Marlborough, and is one of the moſt ſtately edifices in the kingdom. It is ſituated a little to the weſt of Woodſtock, about four miles and a half from Oxford. In the reign of Queen Anne, the honour and manor of the town and hundred of Woodſtock, were ſettled by parliament upon that illuſtrious General, John Duke of Marlborough, as a reward for his ſignal military ſervices. A palace was alſo built for him at the public expence, and which, to commemorate the important victory he had obtained at Blenheim over the French and Bavarian forces, was called BLENHEIM HOUSE. It was built by Sir John Vanburgh, and is extremely magnificent, though many objections have been made to it by the connoiſſeurs in architecture.

From the town of Woodſtock we enter the park, through a ſpacious portal of the Corinthian order; from whence a noble proſpect is opened to the palace, the bridge, the lake with its valley,



A View of Blenheim House, the Seat of the Duke of Marlborough.

valley, and other beautiful ſcenes of the park. The houſe in particular, which we ſurvey from this point obliquely, is no where viewed to greater advantage. The front is 138 feet from wing to wing: the roof is adorned with a ſtone baluſtrade, and ſtatues. The ſouth front is not ſo highly ornamented; but on the pediment of it is a noble buſto, larger than life, of Lewis XIV. taken from the citadel of Tournay. The common entrance is at the eaſt gate, which leads us into a quadrangle, conſiſting of offices. From thence, oppoſite the entrance, we proceed into the grand area.

In the centre of the front, a ſuperb portico, elevated on maſſy columns, admits us to the HALL; which is the height of the houſe, ſupported by Corinthian pillars. It is one of the largeſt and fineſt rooms in England. The cieling is adorned with an allegorical piece, painted by Sir James Thornhill, repreſenting the Duke of Marlborough crowned with Victory, who points to the plan of the battle of Blenheim. In the receſſes, are well-finiſhed caſts from the antique ſtatues of the Venus of Medicis, the Roman Slave, the *Atacitæ*, and Saltator. Over theſe is a ſeries of paintings, called the Loves of God, which are aſcribed to Titian, and which were a preſent to the Duke from the King of Sardinia. In the arcades on the right and left, is a fine arrangement of marble *termini*. And over the door that leads into the ſaloon, is a buſt of the great Duke of Marlborough, with a Latin inſcription.

Strangers are uſually conducted from the Hall into the apartments on the left; and in the *firſt* apartment, the hangings begin a ſuit of tapeſtry, repreſenting the victories and atchievements of Alexander the Great, which are continued in ſome ſucceeding rooms. There are alſo in this room paintings of St. Auſtin when young, and of Pope Gregory, both by Titian, of the woman taken in adultery by Rembrandt, and of Mary of Medicis by Rubens.

In the *ſecond* apartment are ſome pieces of beautiful tapeſtry, the ſubjects taken from claſſical allegory: there are alſo ſome fine paintings in this room, one of which is a Holy Family by Rubens. In the *third* apartment is a picture of Rubens's family, painted by himſelf; portraits of the Ducheſs of Portſmouth, and Eleanor Gwyn, miſtreſſes to Charles II. by Vandyke; and alſo Lord Stafford dictating to his Secretary, by the ſame. This laſt is perhaps one of Vandyke's principal portrait pieces. The earneſtneſs of the ſpeaker, and the attention of his amanuenſis, heighten each other in the moſt expreſſive manner.

In

In the *fourth* apartment, is a portrait of Rubens's wife, by Rubens; of Catharine of Medicis, by the ſame; and of Mary Queen of Scots, by Vandyke. In the *fifth* apartment, are four ſculpture pieces, a head, and an unfiniſhed piece, all by Rubens; two Madonnas, in different attitudes, by Titian; Herod's cruelty, and Queen Eſther, by Paul Veroneſe; and ſome other pieces by capital maſters.

In the *ſixth* apartment begins the tapeſtry of the Duke of Marlborough's battles, which are introduced by a moſt lively repreſentation of a ſuttling booth, foragers, a battle, and a ſiege. Here are alſo three good paintings, one of which is a picture of Dobſon, an Engliſh Painter, in the reign of King James I. with his family, by himſelf. This laſt is an admirable piece, in the old correct manner. In the *ſeventh* apartment, the tapeſtry repreſents the battles of Wynendale, Bouchain, and Oudenard, with the ſiege of Donawert. Here are alſo three fine pictures, one of which is Jupiter and Europa, by Paul Veroneſe. The *eighth* apartment contains the three Graces cloathed; Venus and Adonis, and two other pieces by Rubens; the Egyptian fortune-teller, by Angelo Carravaggio, and ſome other pictures of great merit.

The SALOON is nobly decorated, and is proportioned to the grandeur of the other rooms. The door-caſes are of marble, and exceedingly magnificent; the floor is alſo of marble. The walls are adorned with paintings of the different habits, and modes of dreſs of all nations, by La Guerre. The cieling, which is executed by the ſame hand, is an allegorical piece, repreſenting John Duke of Marlborough in the midſt of his victories ſtopt by Peace, and Time reminding him of the rapidity of his own flight.

In the *ninth* apartment, the tapeſtry of the Duke's battles is continued, with the battles of Blenheim, Malplaquet, and the ſiege of Liſle. In the *tenth* apartment, the tapeſtry contains the concluſion of the Duke's battles; with a picture of Iſaac bleſſing Jacob, by Rembrandt; a portrait of John Duke of Marlborough, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; and a fruit-piece, by Michael Angelo. The *eleventh* apartment contains two pieces of ſtill-life, by Malteſe; and a portrait of the Ducheſs of Marlborough, by Sir Godfrey Kneller.

The LIBRARY is a moſt noble room, upwards of 183 feet in length, and proportionably broad and lofty. The Doric pilaſters of marble, with the complete columns of the ſame, which ſupport a rich entablature, the window-frames, the ſurrounding baſement of black marble, and the ſtuccoed compartments

ments of the vaulted cieling, are in very high taſte both with reſpect to deſign and finiſhing. It was originally intended as a gallery for paintings; but the late Duke of Marlborough has added utility to elegance, having furniſhed it with a noble collection of books, made by Lord Sunderland, his grace's father. Their number is ſaid to amount to 24,000 volumes, which have been allowed to be worth 30,000l. and are ſaid to be the beſt private collection in England. They are kept under gilt-wire lattices. On the top of the caſes is a ſeries of bronzes; and that no aſſiſtance to learning might be wanting, the late Duke placed here a fine Orrery and Planetarium.

At the upper end of the room is a highly finiſhed ſtatue of Queen Anne, by Ryſbrack; and over the book-caſes are copies of the Cartoons, by Le Blond; Lot and his daughters, by Rubens; and a Crucifixion by Vandyke, with other paintings. From the bow-windows of the library we have a delightful proſpect of the declivity deſcending to the river, and of the gradual aſcent of the venerable groves which cover the correſponding hills.

The CHAPEL is one of the wings of this ſtately building, in which is a ſuperb monument to the memory of the old Duke and Dutcheſs of Marlborough, by Ryſbrack. They are repreſented with their two ſons, who died young, as ſupported by Fame and Hiſtory. Beneath in a baſſo-relievo, is the taking of Marſhal Tallard.

The *Gardens* are ſpacious and agreeable; they originally conſiſted of about 100 acres, but the preſent Duke has made very large additions, and many elegant improvements. The noble deſcent to the water on the ſouth and weſt, covered with flowering ſhrubs, and embelliſhed with other natural beauties, are not eaſy to be paralleled. About the middle of the grand approach, is a magnificent *Bridge*, conſiſting chiefly of one arch, in the ſtyle of the Rialto at Venice. The water is formed into a ſpacious Lake, which covers the whole extent of a capacious valley, ſurrounded by an artificial declivity of a prodigious depth, and has been conſidered, both with regard to its accompaniments and extent, as the moſt capital piece of water in the kingdom.

The *Park* is between ten and eleven miles in circumference, and contains many beautiful ſcenes. The lover of rural variety will be entertained here with every circumſtance of beauty, which he can expect from diverſified nature; from hills and vallies, wood, and water. In this park originally ſtood a royal palace, and here Ethelred called a parliament. King Alfred,

Alfred, while he was reſident here, tranſlated *Boetius de Conſolatione Philoſophiæ*. Henry I. encloſed the park with a wall, the greateſt part of which is now remaining. His ſucceſſor, Henry II. principally reſided at this ſeat, and is ſaid to have erected in the park a houſe, encompaſſed with a Labyrinth of extraordinary contrivance. We have before obſerved, that the ſtory of Fair Roſamond's being ſecreted here, with a view of ſecuring her from the rage and jealouſy of Queen Eleanor, is a tradition not well founded; but it is not improbable, that while the amour between this Lady and that Prince ſubſiſted, ſhe might reſide here. For it is ſaid that the romantic retreat, which was called Fair Roſamond's Bower, was ſituated here in the valley, to the north-weſt of the Bridge, near a remarkable bath, or ſpring, called at preſent Roſamond's Well.

The grant of the park and manor of Woodſtock, and of this palace, to the Duke of Marlborough, and his important ſervices to the nation, are enumerated on the pedeſtal of a ſtately column, 130 feet in height, on the top of which is a ſtatue of the Duke. This column is ſituated in the grand avenue to Blenheim-Houſe, and part of the inſcription, which is admirably well written, is as follows:

The Caſtle of BLENHEIM was founded by Q. Anne,
In the fourth Year of her Reign,
In the Year of the Chriſtian Æra 1705.
A Monument deſigned to perpetuate the Memory of the
Signal Victory
Obtained over the French and Bavarians,
Near the Village of BLENHEIM,
On the Banks of the Danube,
By JOHN, Duke of MARLBOROUGH,
The Hero, not only of his Nation, but of his Age;
Whoſe Glory was equal in the Council and in the Field;
Who by Wiſdom, Juſtice, Candour, and Addreſs,
Reconciled various, and even oppoſite, Intereſts;
Acquired an Influence
Which no Rank, no Authority can give,
Nor any Force, but that of ſuperior Virtue:
Became the fixed important Centre,
Which united in one common cauſe,
The principal States of Europe;
Who by military Knowledge, and irreſiſtible Valour,
In a long Series of uninterrupted Triumphs,
Broke the Power of France,

When



Ditchley, the Seat of the Earl of Litchfield, near Woodstock, in Oxfordshire

When raiſed the higheſt, when exerted the moſt;
Reſcued the Empire from Deſolation;
Aſſerted and confirmed the Liberties of EUROPE.

Blenheim Houſe itſelf was finiſhed at the public expence, but the Bridge, the Column juſt mentioned, and the portal contiguous to the town, were erected at the expence of Sarah, Dutcheſs Dowager of Marlborough.

DITCHLEY,

Is the noble ſeat of the Earl of Litchfield, ſituated about four miles from Blenheim, on the north-weſt. It is a lofty edifice, built of hewn ſtone, ſituated on a hill, which commands all the country, having Blenheim, Oxford, and the hills beyond it, in full view. The ſouthern front is very elegant, and the offices, which form two beautiful wings, have a communication with the principal building by circular colonnades.

The *Hall* is elegantly decorated, and finely proportioned. The cieling contains an aſſembly of the Gods, painted by Ken. Two of the compartments are filled with hiſtorical pieces from the Æneid, by the ſame hand; one of which repreſents Æneas meeting Venus, his mother, in the wood, near Carthage; and the other, Venus preſenting Æneas with the new armour. The ſciences are introduced as ornaments, with buſts of the poets properly diſpoſed; and a ſtatue of the Venus de Medicis. The chimney-piece is ſuperb and lofty, decorated with a portrait of the late Earl of Litchfield, by Akerman.

The conſtruction of the *Muſick Room* is well adapted to the uſe for which it is intended; and its elegance cannot fail to have the moſt pleaſing effect on the ſpectator. There is a painting in this room of Rubens and his family hunting wild beaſts; and ſome other good pictures. The *Dining Room* is executed with much ſimple elegance; and here are the capital portraits of Henry VIII. and Prince Henry, by Hans Holbein, executed with much ſtrength and freedom. There are alſo ſome other good pictures here, particularly a family-piece of Charles I. with Charles II. at his knee, by Vandyke; and two fine portraits by Jonſon.

The *Damaſk Bed-Chamber* is adorned with tapeſtry, repreſenting boys ſqueezing grapes, and engaged in other ſports; and contains ſome fine portraits. The *Tapeſtry Drawing-Room* is alſo adorned with tapeſtry, repreſenting the Muſes and Apollo, a vintage, and Bacchanalian ſcenes; and there are alſo ſome good portraits here. From this apartment we have an entertaining view of a winding valley, with a ſerpentine canal, over

which is thrown an elegant Bridge from a deſign of Palladio's.

The cieling and walls of the *Saloon* are richly ſtuccoed; and in the middle compartment of the roof is a repreſentation of Flora and the Zephyrs. Here is alſo an excellent antique of the Goddeſs Health, about thirty inches in height, purchaſed from Dr. Mead's collection. On its pedeſtal is a baſs-relief of the head of Æſculapius, cut with remarkable boldneſs.

In the *Green Damaſk Drawing Room*, the chimney-piece is finely executed by *Scheemaker*, and finiſhed with two ſmall Corinthian columns. In the middle, is a landſcape, by Wootton. Over the doors, are two ſtriking pictures brought from Italy, of ruins, rocks, and caſcades. Here is alſo a table of Italian marble, having a greeniſh ground interſperſed with white veins.

In the *Gilt Drawing-Room* is a full-length portrait of Charles II. and the Dutcheſs of Cleveland, by Lely; with two other portraits by Kneller, and two curious tables of Egyptian marble. In the *Velvet Bed-chamber* both the bed and hangings are of rich figured Genoa velvet. The chimney-piece is elegantly finiſhed by Scheemaker, and adorned with a proſpect of a ruin by Paul Panini.

The *Tapeſtry-Room* is curiouſly ornamented in the Chineſe taſte. Here are two pieces of tapeſtry, one of which repreſents the Cyclops forging the armour of Æneas; the other, Neptune, with his proper attendants, giving directions about re-fitting a veſſel, which has juſt been ſhip-wrecked. Over the chimney-piece, which is finely finiſhed in white marble, is a capital picture of the Duke and Dutcheſs of York, and the Princeſſes Mary and Anne, by Sir Peter Lely; and over the doors are two maſterly landſcapes, by an Italian hand.

On the whole, this ſeat is a repoſitory of valuable portraits, executed by the moſt eminent artiſts in that ſpecies of painting; Rubens, Vandyke, Sir Peter Lely, and our ingenious countryman and rival of Vandyke, Jonſon. As a piece of architecture, this ſeat is inferior to none for the juſtneſs of its proportions, and the convenient diſpoſition of its apartments. With regard to its furniture and decorations, it is finiſhed with taſte rather than with ſplendour; and adorned with that elegance which reſults from ſimplicity,

WHITNEY

Is a town in Oxfordſhire of great antiquity, ſixty-nine miles from London. It appears to have been a place of conſiderable repute before the time of William I. and increaſed in the number of inhabitants ſo much afterwards, that it received ſummon-

ſes

ſes to ſend members to parliament in the reign of Edward I. but that privilege has been long ſince taken away. The town chiefly conſiſts of one ſtreet, about a mile in length; and has a great manufacture of rugs and blankets, and the latter are for their whiteneſs preferred to thoſe made at any other place. It is computed, that ſeven thouſand packs of wool are wrought into blankets here every year; and beſides five hundred weavers, there are ſeldom fewer than three thouſand perſons employed in carding and ſpinning, with many others who dreſs the goods afterwards. The town is populous. Here is a free-ſchool, which was founded and endowed by Mr. Henry Box, a druggiſt in London, with a good library adjoining: the grocers company in London are governors of this ſchool. There is alſo a charity-ſchool here for fifty children, and an hoſpital for ſix poor blanket-makers widows.

BURFORD is an antient market-town, in the ſame county, and eighteen miles from Oxford. It has a great market for ſaddles; and on a heath near it, called the Seven Downs, there are frequent horſe-races.

CHIPPING NORTON

Is a place of great antiquity, and appears to have been a market-town in the time of the Saxons. Roman coins have been frequently found here; and the church is a building after a curious model, in which there are monuments, with ſo many names of merchants on braſs plates, as ſhew it to have been once a place of great trade. This town is pleaſantly ſituated, and formerly ſent members to parliament, but that privilege is now taken away.

In the neighbourhood of this town are what are called *Rollrick's ſtones*, or *Roul-rich ſtones*, which ſome ſuppoſe to be the remains of an old Britiſh temple, whilſt others imagine they were ſet up in memory of Rollo, the famous Daniſh Commader. They are very lofty, and placed in a circular direction, with one taller than the other, which is vulgarly called the King.

At a little diſtance from Chipping Norton is a village named *Hook-Norton*, which is ſaid to have been an antient ſeat of the Saxon kings. About the beginning of the tenth century there was a great battle fought here between the Danes and the Engliſh, in which the latter were defeated; and there are here ſeveral barrows, or ſepulchral monuments of the antient Britons. Camden ſays, this place was formerly inhabited by ſuch clowns

and churls, that it was from that circumſtance called *Hog's-Norton*, a name which is now frequently given to it.

BANBURY

It a town of great antiquity, and pleaſantly ſituated on the river Cherwell. It is ſeventy four-miles from London, and twenty-three from Oxford. It is a pretty large town, with a handſome church, a meeting houſe, a free-ſchool, and two charity-ſchools. The trade of this town is conſiderable; and great quantities of cheeſe are made here, which is noted for its goodneſs. This place has alſo been famous for a particular kind of cakes, called Banbury cakes. The lands in the neighbourhood are remarkable for their fertility. Several remarkable battles have been fought near this place, and at a little diſtance from hence is an ancient caſtle called Broughton-caſtle, built before the reign of King Henry the Sixth.

HANWELL-PARK, near Banbury, is the ſeat of Sir Jonathan Cope, Bart. There is here a clock which is eſteemed a great curioſity. It moves by water, and ſhews the time by the riſing of a new gilded ſun for every hour, moving in a hemiſphere of wood, each ſun having in its center a figure for the hour. For inſtance, One, which, aſcending half way to the zenith of the arch, ſhews it to be a quarter paſt One, at the zenith half an hour; whence deſcending half way towards the horizon, three quarters; and at laſt abſconding under it, there ariſes another gilded ſun above the horizon at the other ſide of the arch bearing the figure 2; and ſo of the reſt.

DEDDINGTON is a place of great antiquity, and ſent members to parliament in the reigns of Edward I. and III. but never ſince. The town is ſmall, though it is pretty populous.

BICESTER is thirteen miles from Oxford, and is a long ſtraggling town, chiefly remarkable for excellent malt liquor.—Near this town is an old caſtle, called Alcheſter, which is ſituated on the Roman highway, called *Akeman-ſtreet*. That this was a place of great ſtrength, and even a flouriſhing city, is ſuppoſed to be evident from the vaſt number of coins that have been dug up, and becauſe it is no uncommon thing for the huſbandmen to break their ploughs againſt the ruins of the foundation.

THAME, or TAME, is ſo called from the river of that name, which runs by the town. It is forty-ſix miles from London, and the ſituation is extremely pleaſant; and being on an eminence, the proſpect over the neighbouring country is delightful. It is a large town, with a fine church, and one great ſtreet, in the middle whereof is the market-place, which is well furniſhed with

with live cattle, and all kinds of proviſions, and the river is navigable to it by barges. It has an handſome free-ſchool, and an alms-houſe.

DORCHESTER, which is forty nine miles from London, was a town of note among the Romans, and afterwards a biſhop's ſee; but it is now an inconſiderable place. It has, however, a very large old church, and a good ſtone bridge over the Thames.

HENLEY UPON THAMES.

This is ſuppoſed to be the oldeſt town in Oxfordſhire, and is pleaſantly ſituated on the ſide of the Thames, which is navigable to it by barges. It is a corporation governed by a warden, burgeſſes, and other officers. The buildings are generally good; and here are two free-ſchools, one a grammar-ſchool, founded and endowed by King James the Firſt, and the other called the Blue-coat ſchool, founded by the Lady Elizabeth Periam, for teaching and cloathing poor children. Here is alſo an alms-houſe, founded by Dr. Longland, Biſhop of Lincoln; and a wooden bridge over the Thames, where, it is ſaid, there was antiently one of ſtone. The greater part of the inhabitants of this town are maltſters, mealmen, and bargemen, who enrich themſeves and the neighbourhood, by ſending corn, malt, and wood to London; and it is ſaid that 300 cart-loads of malt and corn are often ſold here on a market-day.

GREAT MARLOW

Is a borough-town in Buckinghamſhire, thirty-one miles from London, which derives its name from the marly ſoil in which it ſtands. It is a conſiderable town, with a bridge over the Thames, not far from the place where it receives the Wycombe river; and has an handſome church and town hall. The chief manufacture of the town is bone-lace, but it is of more account for the navigation carried on by the Thames for meal, malt, and beech timber. There are ſeveral corn and paper-mills in its neighbourhood, particularly on the little river Loddon; and alſo three remarkable mills called the Temple Mills, or the braſs mills for making kettles, pans, &c. beſides a mill for making thimbles; and another for preſſing oil from rape and flax ſeed.

HIGH WICCOMB.

This town is thirty-two miles from London, in the road to Oxford. It is ſuppoſed to derive its name from a ſmall ſtream, which glides through the low grounds near this place into the Thames. The town has on each ſide of it pleaſant hills ſhaded with woods, and may for antiquity, extent, and beauty, compare with the greateſt and beſt in the county. It is a corporation, governed by a mayor, aldermen, common-council, recorder, and other officers. It has two principal ſtreets, one of which is ſpacious, and well-built with good brick houſes, and full of large inns. Queen Elizabeth gave lands for the maintenance of a free-grammar-ſchool in this town. The aſſizes are ſometimes held here, and this town ſends two members to parliament.

This place is ſuppoſed to have been a Roman ſtation; for in the year 1724, a Roman pavement was diſcovered by ſome workmen, who were digging in a neighbouring meadow belonging to Lord Shelburne. It was about nine feet ſquare, and conſiſted of ſtones of various colours, wrought with exquiſite art; but the largeſt was not broader than the ſquare of a die.

BEACONSFIELD is another market-town in the road to Oxford, and contains ſome good inns, but has nothing in it that is very remarkable.

AMERSHAM is an antient borough town, ſituated in a valley between two woody hills, near the river Coln. It conſiſts of two ſtreets, a long one and a ſhort one, which croſs each other at right angles in the middle. In the area where theſe ſtreets interſect each other, ſtands the church, which is the beſt rectory in the county. Here is a handſome town-hall and a free-ſchool.

MONK'S RISBOROUGH is only remarkable for the antiquities in its neighbourhood; particularly an old fortification, called Bellinus's caſtle; and ſome trenches and fortifications ſuppoſed to have been made when the Romans were in Britain. And not far from Monk's Riſborough, there is a high ſteep chalky hill, on the ſouth-weſt ſide of which there is the figure of a croſs, an hundred feet long, formed by trenches cut into the chalk about two feet deep, which is ſuppoſed to be the work of the Saxons. —Near Monk's Riſborough is *Prince's Riſborough*, where on the top of a hill are the traces of a camp; and it is ſaid that thirteen counties may be ſeen from hence.

AYLES-

AYLESBURY.

This is a very ancient town, forty-four miles from London, and ſtands on a riſing ground, at the eaſt end of a rich valley, called *Ayleſbury Vale*, which feeds incredible numbers of cattle and ſheep, remarkable for their ſize and fine fleeces; and extends almoſt from Thame on the edge of Oxfordſhire, to Leighton in Bedfordſhire. The town-hall of Ayleſbury is an handſome fabric, in which the county aſſizes and ſeſſions are often held, and ſtands in the middle of the market-place, which is a large handſome ſquare. This is a neat, compact, and populous town, the beſt and largeſt in Buckinghamſhire, and conſiſts of ſeveral fine ſtreets. It ſends two members to parliament.

In the reign of William the Norman, Ayleſbury was a royal manor, ſeveral parts of which that King gave to his favourites, to hold of him by the following odd tenure; namely, that they ſhould find litter or ſtraw for the King's bed and chambers, and provide him three eels in winter, and three green geeſe in ſummer, beſides herbs for his chamber; and this they were to do thrice a year, if the King came thither ſo often.

Some of the principal public edices in this town were erected at the expence of Sir John Baldwin, Lord Chief Juſtice of the Court of Common Pleas in the reign of Henry VIII. He was otherwiſe a great benefactor to this town, and had a cauſeway made from the market-place towards London for the diſtance of three miles, at his own coſt.

BUCKINGHAM.

This is the county town, and is ſixty miles from London. It is waſhed on all ſides but the north, by the river Ouſe, over which it has three ſtone bridges. The caſtle of the town, now in ruins, was built in the middle of it, and divides it into two parts. In the north part ſtands the town hall, a very handſome convenient ſtructure, in which are kept the weights and meaſures of the county. This town was for many years a ſtaple for wool, and ſeveral of its wool-halls are yet ſtanding; but that trade is now loſt here. It is very populous; and the church, which is in the weſt part of the town, is a very large building, and, when its ſpire was ſtanding, might be reckoned the beſt in the whole county, and was as high as moſt in England; but in 1698 was in part blown down, and has never ſince been rebuilt. In the year 1725, many of the old buildings in this town were deſtroyed by fire, which burnt out 138 families, and did near 33,000 pounds damage. The county-gaol was kept in the caſtle

caſtle here, till it fell to decay; but a new one has been built; and by a late act the ſummer aſſizes, which had been ſometimes held at Ayleſbury, are always to be held here. This town ſends two members to parliament.

S T O W,

The celebrated ſeat of Earl Temple, is about two miles north-weſt from Buckingham, well ſituated in a fine ſpot, which is much more beautiful than any of the ſurrounding country. The houſe is large; it extends in one line of front in nine hundred feet. A grand flight of ſteps, deſigned by Signior Borra, ornamented with baluſtrades, leads us to the *Saloon*, which is a grand apartment hung with tapeſtry, repreſenting the functions of the cavalry. The dimenſions of this room are 43 feet by 22; the furniture is crimſon, ornamented with two marble buſts, a rich cabinet, and fine china jars.

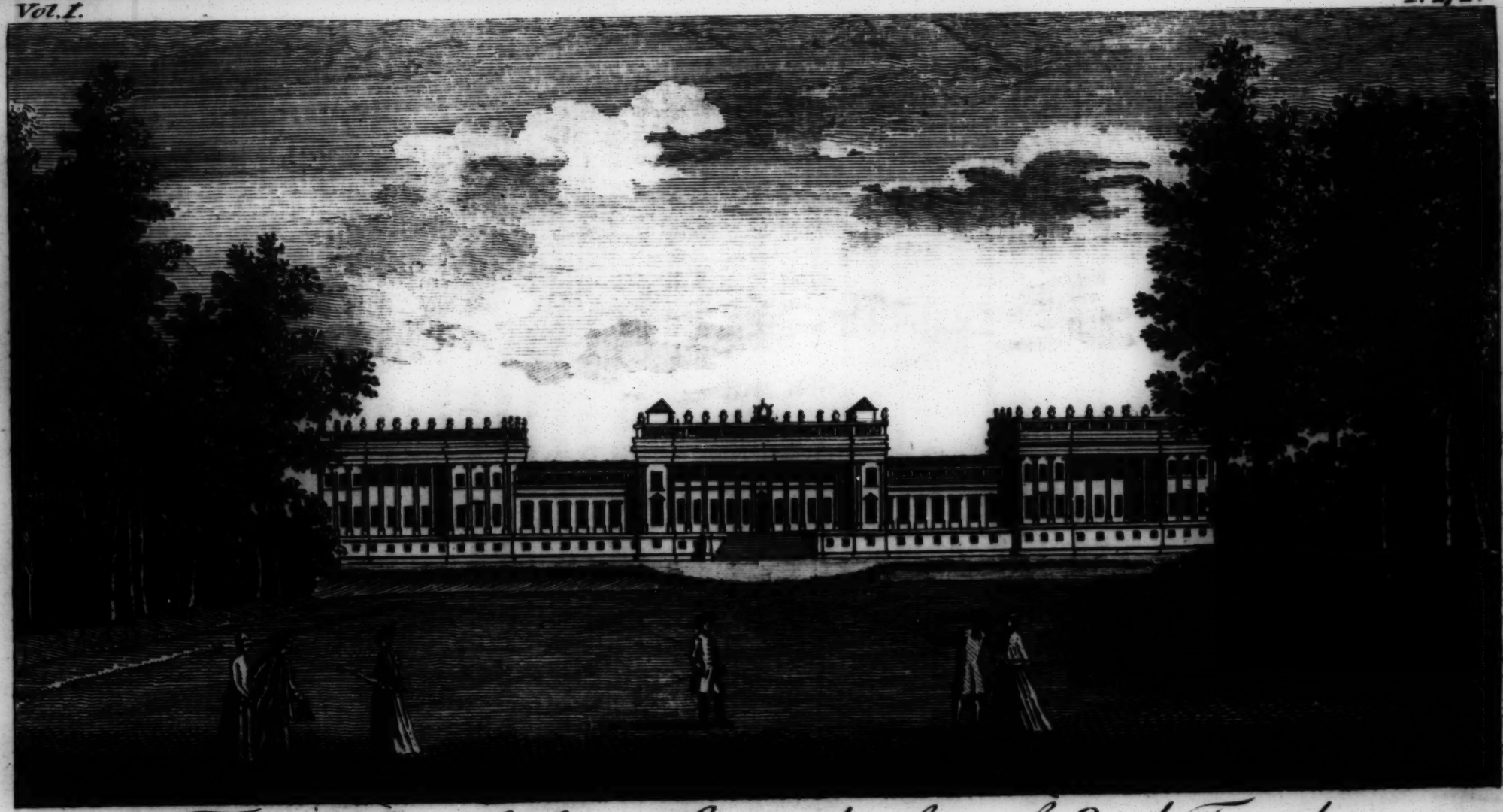
The *Hall* is a ſpacious room, 36 feet by 22 and half, deſigned and painted by Kent. Its cieling is enriched with the ſigns of the Zodiac, and the walls are adorned with feſtoons of flowers, &c. Over the chimney is a curious piece of alto relievo, the ſtory of which is Darius's tent. Here are alſo eleven marble buſts properly diſpoſed.

The *Dining Room* is a well-proportioned apartment, 43 feet by 25, in which are ſome fine paintings, particularly a dancing at the Duke of Mantua's marriage, by Tintoret, a landſcape by Claude Lorraine, the marriage at Cana by Baſſan, and Moſes burying the Egyptian by Pouſſin. There are alſo in this room three pieces of ſtatuary that deſerve attention; a Narciſſus, whoſe attitude is eaſy, and the figure elegant; Vertumnus and Pomona, by Scheemacher; and a Venus and Adonis by Delveau. The Venus is very delicate and beautiful.

The Grand *Stair Caſe* is ornamented with iron work, and enriched with three cieling pieces, painted by Sclater; namely, Juſtice and Peace, Fame and Victory, Plenty and Conſtancy.

The *Chapel* is wainſcotted with cedar, and has a gallery of the ſame, hung with crimſon velvet. Its dimenſions are 37 feet by 20 feet 10 inches, and 26 feet high. Over the communion table is a fine painting of the reſurrection, by Tintoret; and over that is the King's arms, richly carved and ornamented. Above the cedar wainſcot, are the following paintings at full length, viz. Moſes and Aron, St. Peter and St. Paul, the four Evangeliſts, the aſcenſion, baptiſm, and the ſalutation of the Virgin Mary. The cieling is the ſame as in the chapel royal

at



Front View of Stow House, the Seat of Earl Temple.

at St. James's, and the cedar wainſcot enriched with elegant carving, by Gibbons.

In Lady Temple's *Dreſſing room*, the hangings, chairs, and window curtains, are of fine printed cotton; and there is here a fine old japan cabinet, ornamented with china jars; and a fine view of Pekin over the chimney-piece, by Iolli

In her ladyſhip's *Bed-chamber*, the hangings, chairs, &c. are the ſame as the Dreſſing-room; with a picture of a Chineſe Temple over the chimney, by Iolli.

The *Chineſe Cloſet* is the repoſitory of her ladyſhip's valuable china. The japan and ornaments were a preſent from the late Prince and Princeſs of Wales. From hence we enter a colonnade adorned with paintings by Sclater. It is embelliſhed with exotics and flowering ſhrubs. The *Grenville Room* is 29 feet 8 inches by 26 feet 3 inches, and 19 feet 4 inches high, is hung with green velvet, and ornamented with portraits at full length of the Grenville family.

The *Gallery* is a magnificent apartment, 74 feet by 25 feet, and 20 feet high, with gobelin tapeſtry chairs, and is hung with three fine pieces of tapeſtry, viz. a beautiful repreſentation of a Farm, A Dutch Wake from Teniers, and a Dutch Fiſhery, from the ſame. The two chimnies have pictures of Roman ruins over each, by Pannini. The four doors have rural pictures over each, viz. Plowing, Reaping, Hay-making, and Sheep-ſhearing. And a rich cabinet at each end containing books; and 10 marble buſts of Roman Emperors.

In the *Waiting-Room* are ſome fine pictures, particularly Cymon and Iphigenia, by Guerchino; gold pouring into the mouth of Craſſus, by Pouſſin; and a very curious piece by Albert Durer, the ſubject Joan of Arc muſing on her expedition.

In the private *Drawing-Room* is a fine picture of Samſon, by Rembrandt, the expreſſion of which is very great; a landſcape by Claude Loraine; Rubens's firſt wife, by Rubens; Sileno, by the ſame; the Duke of Sully, by Vandyke; Samſon and Dalilah, by Guerchino; and a portrait of Oliver Cromwell, by Old Richardſon.

The *State Gallery* is ſeventy feet long, and twenty two high, and is a very beautiful room. It is hung with Bruſſels tapeſtry, repreſenting the triumphs of Diana, Mars, Venus, Bacchus, and Ceres. The cieling is ſtuccoed in compartments, and ornamented with medallions, and paintings in obſcura.

The *State Bed-chamber* is extremely magnificent, the bed and cieling by Signor Borra; and is finely furniſhed with crimſon damaſk and gold ornaments. The *State Cloſet* is hung with blue damaſk, finely ornamented with carving and gilding; out of which we go into a colonnade, where is a beautiful view of

the gardens and the country. The paſſage is ornamented with marble buſts.

The GARDENS at Stow have long been conſidered as the moſt magnificent in England, and have always been admired by perſons of taſte; and have therefore a natural claim to a particular deſcription in our work. The ſouthern entrance of the gardens is formed by two pavilions of the Doric order, deſigned by Sir John Vanbrugh; the walls of which are adorned with paintings, in freſco, the ſtories taken from Paſtor Fido. Almoſt the firſt ſtriking object that occurs in the gardens, is, an obeliſk near ſeventy feet high, deſigned for a jet de eau, and placed in the middle of a large octagon piece of water. At ſome diſtance we perceive two rivers, which are at laſt united, and enter the octagon in one ſtream. Over one of theſe is a Palladian bridge. From this point a *Gothic Temple*, 70 feet in height, appears on the top of an hill. On the left is an Egyptian pyramid; from whence we are conducted to the Cold Bath. Here we have a proſpect of a natural caſcade, falling from the laſt-mentioned octagon, in three diſtinct ſheets, into an extenſive lake. One of the ſheets paſſes through the arch of an artificial ruin, covered with ever-greens.

Theſe noble gardens contain a great variety of elegant edifices and decorations. The building called the *Hermitage* is built of rough ſtone, and agreeably ſituated in a riſing wood on the banks of the lake; not far from which are the ſtatues of Cain and Abel, finely executed. The *Temple of Venus* is a ſquare building, with colonnade wings. It was deſigned by Kent, and is painted with the ſtory of Hellenore and Malbecco, from Spenſer's Fairy Queen. The room is adorned with a naked Venus; and the ſmaller compartments with a variety of intrigues. Upon the frize is the following motto from Catullus:

Nunc amet qui nonquam amavit;
Quique amavet, nunc amet.

Let him love now, who never lov'd before:
Let him, who always lov'd, now love the more.

Underneath the *Belvidere*, or Gibbes's Building, is an ice-houſe; at ſome diſtance from which are the Roman boxers, admirably copied. Here are alſo two *Pavilions*, one of which is uſed as a dwelling houſe; and the other is ornamented with the ſtatues of Julius Cæſar, Cicero, Portia, and Levia.

The *Egyptian Pyramid*, which was before-mentioned, and which is ſixty feet in height, has a Latin inſcription to the following purpoſe: "To the memory of Sir John Vanbrugh, by



Stow House from the Equestrian Statue in the Park.

" whom ſeveral of the buildings in theſe gardens were deſigned,
" Lord Cobham erected this pyramid."

In a field, encloſed with a fence of ſtakes, after the military manner, are the ſtatues of Hercules and Antæus. *St. Auguſtine's Cave* is a monaſtic cell, built with moſs and roots: within is a ſtraw couch, and ſeveral Latin inſcriptions, in the ſtile of the old Monkiſh Latin verſe. The *Temple of Bacchus* is an edifice of brick, the inſide of which is adorned with Bacchanalian ſcenes, painted by Nollikins; and here are two vaſes in a very maſterly taſte. The *Saxon Temple* is an altar ſituated in an open grove, about which the ſeven Saxon Deities, which denominate the ſeveral days of the week, were formerly placed; but theſe have ſince been removed to the Gothic Temple.

Nelſon's Seat is an elegant little building, from whence there is an agreeable opon proſpect. In the inſide are ſome paintings, with inſcriptions. At the head of the canal, oppoſite the north front of the houſe, is an equeſtrian ſtatue of King George I. in compleat armour. There is alſo a ſtatue of his late Majeſty, King George II. raiſed on a Corinthian pillar. And in a rural amphitheatre is a ſtatue of Queen Caroline, erected on four Ionic columns.

Dido's Cave is a retired dark building with this inſcription from Virgil:

Speluncam Dido, Dux et Trojanus, eandem,
Deveniunt.

" Repairing to the ſame dark cave are ſeen,
" The Trojan Hero, and the Tyrian Queen."

The *Rotunda*, which was deſigned by Sir John Vanbrugh, is ſupported by Ionic pillars. Within, is a ſtatue of Venus de Medicis on a pedeſtal of blue marble. Scarcely any object in the whole garden ſhews itſelf to more advantage, than this ſtructure; or makes a more beautiful figure, from ſeveral different points of proſpect.

The *Sleeping parlour* is a ſquare building, with an elegant Ionic portico, ſituated in a cloſe wood, with this Epicurian inſcription: *Cum omnia ſint in incerto, fave tibi*; i. e. Since all things are uncertain, indulge thyſelf. The *Witch Houſe* is a kind of hut, on the walls of which are roughly painted the midnight merriment of hags.

The *Temple of ancient Virtue* is a compleat and beautiful rotunda of the Ionic order, deſigned by Kent. Over each door on the outſide, is this motto: *Priſcæ Virtuti*; to ancient Virtue. It is adorned with ſtatues of Lycurgus, Socrates, Homer, and Epaminondas, under which are Latin inſcriptions to the following purpoſe.

LYCURGUS,

LYCURGUS, having planned with conſummate wiſdom a conſtitution, ſecured againſt every inroad of corruption, this truly great Father of his country bequeathed to his citizens a laſting liberty; luxury being kept out by this diſuſe of wealth.

SOCRATES, innocent amidſt corruption, an encourager of good men, a worſhipper of one God, the wiſeſt of men delivered Philoſophy from an idle ſcholaſtic life, and introduced her into ſociety, to amend mankind.

HOMER, the firſt as well as beſt of Poets, whoſe genius ſubſervient wholly to the cauſe of virtue, inſtructed mankind, by a language univerſally known, in the godlike arts of daring and ſuffering heroically.

EPAMINONDAS, by whoſe courage, prudence, and moderation, the Theban commonwealth obtained liberty and empire, an happy eſtabliſhment as well civil as military; and by whoſe death it loſt them.

Over one of the doors of this edifice is alſo the following inſcription: "Charum eſſe civem, bene de republica mereri, "laudari, coli, diligi, glorioſum eſt: metui vero, & in odio "eſſe, invidioſum, teteſtabille, imbecillum, caducum;" i. e. To be dear to our country and to deſerve well of the ſtate, to be honoured, reverenced, and loved, is truly glorious; but to be dreaded and hated of mankind is baſe, deteſtable, weak, impolitick.

Over the other door is as follows: "Juſtitiam cole et pietatem, quæ cum ſit magna in parentibus et propinquis, tum in "patria maxima eſt. Ea vita via eſt in cælum, et in hunc cætum "eorum qui jam vixerunt;" i. e. An affection for our friends and relations is amiable; but for our country divine. This is the path to future happineſs, and the aſſembly of thoſe who have already lived.

From the Temple of *Ancient Virtue*, you look down on a very beautiful winding hollow lawn, ſcattered with ſingle trees in the happieſt manner, through the ſtems of which, the water breaks to the eye in a ſtile admirably pictureſque. Near to this temple in a thicket, is the *Temple of Modern Virtue*, ſatirically repreſented in ruins.

The gardens continue extremely various and beautiful, till you come to the Princeſs Amelia's arch, from which you at once break upon a ſcenery truly enchanting; being more like a rich pictureſque compoſition, than the effect of an artful management of ground and buildings. The lawn from the arch, falls in various waves into the water, at the bottom of the vale: it is ſcattered with trees, whoſe ſpreading tops unite, and leave the eye an irregular command among their ſtems of a double wave on the lake. The ſmooth green of the lawn, obſcured in ſome

places

places by the ſhade of the trees, in others illuminated by the ſun, forms an object as beautiful as can be imagined; nor can any thing be more pictureſque than the water appearing through the fore-ground of the ſcene, thus canopied with trees. A break in the grove preſents a compleat picture above theſe beautiful varieties of wood and water: firſt, the Palladian-bridge, backed by a riſing ground ſcattered with wood; and at the top of that a caſtle. The objects of the whole ſcene, though various, and ſome diſtant, are moſt happily united to form a compleat view, equally magnificent and pleaſing; indeed it is the richeſt that is ſeen at Stow.

The *Palladian Bridge* is adorned with ſeveral antique marble buſtos. The roof on the ſide facing the water, is ſupported by Ionic pillars. The back wall is covered with a fine piece of Alto Relievo, which repreſents the four quarters of the world bringing their various products to Britannia. Here are alſo paintings of Sir Walter Raleigh with a map of Virginia; and of William Penn, preſenting the laws of Pennſylvania.

After croſſing the Serpentine River, we paſs into the *Elyſian Fields*, a moſt delicious retreat, conſiſting of beautiful waves of cloſe ſhaven graſs; breaking among wood, and ſcattered with ſingle trees; bounding on one ſide by thick groves, and ſhelving on the other down to the water, which winds in a very happy manner; and commanding from ſeveral ſpots, various landſcapes of the diſtant parts of the gardens.

The *Temple of Britiſh Worthies*, is a ſemi-circular wall, adorned with the following buſtos and inſcriptions:

Sir THOMAS GRESHAM, who by the honourable profeſſion of a merchant having enriched himſelf and his country, for carrying on the commerce of the world, built the Royal Exchange.

IGNATIUS JONES, who, to adorn his country, introduced and rivalled the Greek and Roman architecture.

JOHN MILTON, whoſe ſublime and unbounded genius equalled a ſubject that carried him beyond the limits of the world.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, whoſe excellent genius opened to him the whole heart of man, all the mines of fancy, all the ſtores of nature, and gave him power, beyond all other writers, to move, aſtoniſh, and delight mankind.

JOHN LOCKE, who, beſt of all philoſophers, underſtood the powers of the human mind, the nature, end, and bounds of civil government; and with equal courage and ſagacity, refuted the ſlaviſh ſyſtems of uſurped authority over the rights, the conſciences, and the reaſon of mankind.

Sir ISAAC NEWTON, whom the God of nature made to comprehend his works; and from ſimple principles, to diſcover the

the laws never known before, and to explain the appearance never underſtood, of this ſtupendous univerſe.

SIR FRANCIS BACON, LORD VERULAM; who, by the ſtrength and light of a ſuperior genius, rejecting vain ſpeculation, and fallacious theory, taught to purſue truth, and improve philoſophy by the certain method of experiment.

KING ALFRED, the mildeſt, juſteſt, moſt benificent of kings; who drove out the Danes, ſecured the ſeas, protected learning, eſtabliſhed juries, cruſhed corruption, guarded liberty, and was the founder of the Engliſh conſtitution.

EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES, the terror of Europe, the delight of England; who preſerved unaltered, in the height of glory and fortune, his natural gentleneſs and modeſty.

QUEEN ELIZABETH, who confounded the projects, and deſtroyed the power that threatened to oppreſs the liberties of Europe; took off the yoke of eccleſiaſtical tyranny, reſtored religion from the corruptions of Popery: and, by a wiſe, a moderate, and a popular government, gave wealth, ſecurity, and reſpect to England.

KING WILLIAM III. who by his virtue, and conſtancy, having ſaved his country from a foreign maſter, by a bold and generous enterprize, preſerved the liberty and religion of Great Britain.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH, a valiant ſoldier, and an able ſtateſman; who, endeavouring to rouſe the ſpirit of his maſter, for the honour of his country, againſt the ambition of Spain, fell a ſacrifice to the influence of that court, whoſe arms he had vanquiſhed, and whoſe deſigns he had oppoſed.

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE, who, through many perils, was the firſt of Britons who ventured to ſail round the globe; and carried into unknown ſeas and nations the knowledge and glory of the Engliſh name.

JOHN HAMPDEN, who with great ſpirit and conſummate abilities, began a noble oppoſition to an arbitrary court, in defence of the liberties of his country; ſupported them in parliament, and died for them in the field.—There are alſo in this temple buſts of Mr. Pope, and Sir John Barnard.

In the niche of a pyramid is placed a Mercury, with theſe words inſcribed, *Compos ducit ad Elyſios*; i. e. Leads to the Elyſian-Fields. And below this figure is fixed a ſquare of black marble, on which are the following lines:

Hic manus ob patriam pugnando vulnera paſſi,
Quique pii vates, et Phœbo digna locuti,
Inventas aut qui vitam excoluere per artes,
Quique ſui memores alios fecere merendo.

Hero



A View of the two Shell Temples in Stow Gardens.

Vol. I.



The Serpentine River and Grotto in Ston Gardens.

Heroes are here, who for their country bled,
And bards whoſe pure and ſacred verſe is read;
Thoſe who, by arts invented, life improv'd,
And public merit made their mem'ries lov'd.

The *Chineſe Houſe* is ſituated, after the Chineſe manner, upon a large piece of water. We enter it by a bridge, decorated with Chineſe vaſes. It is a ſquare building, with four lattices, and covered with ſail cloth. The windows and roof, together with its cool ſituation on the lake, afford us a juſt ſpecimen of the manner of living in a hot country. Within is the figure of a Chineſe lady aſleep. The outſide of the houſe is painted in the Chineſe taſte, and the inſide is India Japan work.

The *Grotto*, ſituated at the head of the Serpentine river, is furniſhed with a great number of looking-glaſſes, both on the walls and cielings, fixed in frames of plaiſter-work, ſtuck with ſhells and flints. It has a marble ſtatue of Venus, on a pedeſtal adorned in the ſame manner. On each ſide is a pavilion; one of which is ornamented with ſhells, the other with broken flints and pebbles.

The *Ladies Temple* is ſupported by arches, with Venetian windows. The inſide is beautified with the following paintings by Sclater. On the right ſide, Ladies employed in needle and ſhell-work. On the oppoſite ſide, Ladies employed in painting and muſic.

The late Anne, Viſcounteſs Cobham, erected in theſe gardens fluted column, to the memory of her huſband Lord Cobham; on one ſide of which are the following lines:

Quatenus nobis denegatur diu vivere,
Relinquamus aliquid,
Quo nos vixiſſe teſtemur.
As we cannot live long,
Let us leave ſomething behind us,
To ſhew that we have lived.

Paſſing by this column, from whence is a view through the wood of the temple of Concord, you come by winding walks to the banquetting-room, from whence is a fine varied proſpect; and the Corinthian arch appears to advantage. From hence you are conducted to the temple of *Concord* and *Victory*, and in the way, paſs a moſt beautiful winding hollow lawn; the brows of all the ſurrounding ſlopes, finely ſpread with woods, thick in ſome places, and others ſcattered ſo as to open for the eye to follow the bends of the lawn, which is every where different. The temple is excellently ſituated on the brow of one of the hills: it is a very fine building; an oblong totally ſurrounded by a colonnade of well-proportioned pillars. The architecture is light

light and pleaſing. There is a room here, ornamented with a ſtatue of liberty, and ſeveral medallions in the walls.

From hence the walk leads next to a ſequeſtered winding vale, finely ſurrounded with wood; and a ſmall water takes its courſe through it, broken by woody iſlands, and a various obſcured ſhore. At the head, the grotto of ſhells looks down on the water in a pleaſing manner; and muſt be particularly beautiful when the woods and waters are illuminated; which they are when Lord Temple ſups in it. Here is a ſtatue of Venus riſing from the bath; a pleaſing ſtatue, and the attitude naturally taken.

The *Imperial Cloſet* is a ſquare room, in which are painted in freſco, the Emperors Titus, Trajan, and Antoninus; each of whom is reſpectively diſtinguiſhed by a memorable ſaying of his own, fixed over him, as follows:

Imp. Titus Cæſ. Veſpaſian.
Diem perdidi—I have loſt a day.
Imp. N. Trajan Cæſ. Au.
Pro me: ſi merear, in me.
For me—if I deſerve it, againſt me*.
(Alluding to his ſword.)
Imp. Marcus Aurelius Cæſar Antoninus.
Ita regnes imperator, ut privatus regi te velis.
So govern being an Emperor, as you would wiſh to be governed if a ſubject.

A grand terrace, near three hundred feet long leads us to the *Temple of Friendſhip*; which is a well proportioned ſtructure of the Doric order. The emblemn of friendiſhip over the door, thoſe of Juſtice and liberty, with the reſt of the decorations, are elegantly touched. Britannia is ſeated upon the cieling. On one ſide are exhibited the glory of her annals, the reigns of Edward III. and Queen Elizabeth. On the other is offered the reign of * * * *, which ſhe covers with her mantle, and ſeems unwilling to accept.—Here are alſo the buſts of the late Lord, and his illuſtrious friends; viz. Frederick Prince of Wales; the Earls of Cheſterfield, Weſtmoreland, and Marchmont; the Lords Bathurſt and Gower; the preſent Earls of Chatham Temple, and the late Lord Lyttelton.

There is likewiſe in theſe gardens a monument erected to the memory of Congreve; the embelliſhments of which are emblematical of that celebrated Poet's comic genius. And alſo another monument erected by Lord Cobham, in honour of his nephew

* This noble ſentiment of Trajan's, that the ſword of juſtice ought to be employed *for* him if he governed well, but *againſt* him if he governed ill, is what few modern Princes would have the magnanimity to aſſent to.

nephew Captain Thomas Grenville, who was killed bravely fighting againſt the French, in a fleet commanded by Admiral Anſon.

There is in STOW GARDENS ſo great a variety of beauties, that the ſpectator, whoſe mind is capable of being moved, either with grace or majeſty, cannot, without reluctance, leave a place ſo properly calculated to inform the judgement, and intereſt the fancy; where art appears without affectation, and nature without extravagance.

STONEY STRATFORD.

This town is ſuppoſed to derive its name from the ſtoney ſtreet that runs through it, and the ford where travellers uſed formerly to paſs the Ouſe. It is diſtant from London in the road to Cheſter, fity-two miles. The town is rather large, and the houſes in general are built of free ſtone, which is dug from a quarry very near the town. The Ouſe is now croſſed by a ſtone bridge at the ford, and ſometimes ſwells ſo high, that it breaks into the neighbouring fields with great violence, eſpecially on that ſide next the town, the banks on the other ſide being ſomewhat higher. This town has two pariſh churches, and alſo two chapels, and a ſmall charity ſchool. In 1743, a fire broke out here, which conſumed one hundred and fifty houſes, but that damage has been ſince repaired, and the town in general makes an handſome appearance. The chief manufacture of the place is bone-lace.

FENNY STRATFORD is an ancient market-town, in which there are many good inns, and ſeveral fine houſes. It is at preſent a pleaſant and thriving town.

NEWPORT PAGNELL is a well built and populous market-town, and has two ſtone bridges over the Ouſe. It is a kind of ſtaple for bone lace, of which, it is ſaid, more is made in this town, and in the neighbouring villages, than in any other town in the kingdom.

OULNEY is but an inconſiderable town, and has hardly any thing remarkable in it beſides its church, which has a very fine ſpire.

WINSLOW is a ſmall town, ſurrounded with woods, but has nothing in it remarkable.—In the manor of Crendon near this town, there was an abbey, or priory, for regular canons of the order of St. Auguſtine, called *Noctele*, or *Nuttley*. It was built and endowed by Walter Giffard, the ſecond Earl of Buckingham, and Ermengard his wife, in the year 1162. Some of the ruins of this abbey are ſtill ſtanding, and near it are the remains of an ancient caſtle.

IVINGO was formerly a town of great repute, and had a convent of Benedictine nuns, but it is ſo reduced at preſent as to be little better than a village, though it has a kind of weekly market.—About four miles from Ivingo is the pleaſant village of *Aſhbridge*, which is delightfully ſituated. The Duke of Bridgewater has a fine houſe and gardens here, with parks well ſtored with all ſorts of game. Vaſt numbers of cattle are fed in the neighbourhood of Aſhbridge, particularly ſheep, whoſe fleeces are equal, if not ſuperior, to any other in England.

TRING.

This is a market town in Hertfordſhire, thirty-one miles from London, ſituated at the weſtern extremity of the county, where it joins with Buckinghamſhire. It is a place of conſiderable antiquity, as appears from Doomſday book, wherein it is mentioned as a royal demeſne, and as ſuch it was given by William the Norman to his favourite, Robert Earl of Ewe. The town, though ſmall, is extremely neat, with ſome very handſome houſes in it; and the church is a venerable Gothic ſtructure, the inſide of which has been neatly wainſcotted, at the expence of Mr. Gore. This gentleman, who is lord of the manor, has encloſed a park, near the town, containing three hundred acres of land, and in it is a fine plantation of trees, reſembling a wood. Here is a charity-ſchool for teaching and cloathing twenty boys, ſupported by ſubſcription. At a village called *Little Tring*, in this pariſh, riſes one of the heads of the river Thames. Tring is a conſiderable market for corn, of which there are here very large granaries.

In 1751, John Oſborne, and his wife Ruth, both poor aged people, were dragged to a deep pond near this town, and there ducked, by a large mob aſſembled for that purpoſe, who had ignorantly ſuppoſed that this couple were a witch and wizzard. They ſtripped them both naked, tied their thumbs and great toes together, and in that manner threw them three different times into the pond; but the poor woman who was ſeventy years of age, died in the water. They then took John Oſborne to a neighbouring houſe, where they laid him in a bed, and the body of his murdered wife beſide him, after which they diſperſed to their own homes. But Thomas Colley, the ringleader of the mob, was afterwards apprehended, and tried for murder at Hertford. He was found guilty, and executed at Tring, his body being hung in chains.

BERKHAMSTED.

This town, which is twenty-ſeven miles from London, was anciently a Roman town, and Roman coins have often been dug up here. Some of the Saxon kings kept their courts, and held their great councils at this place. William the Norman ſwore here to the Engliſh nobility, that he would preſerve the laws made by his predeceſſors. Robert de Morton, Earl of Cornwall, built a caſtle on the north ſide of this town, the remains of which are converted into a gentleman's ſeat.

King Henry II. kept his court here, and granted the town ſeveral privileges, particularly that its merchandize ſhould paſs free of toll and cuſtom through England, Normandy, Acquitain, and Anjou, and that no judicial proceſs ſhould be executed by any of the King's officers, within its liberties, but only by its own high ſteward, coroner, and bailiffs; that no market ſhould be kept within ſeven miles of it, and that the inhabitants ſhould not be obliged to attend at any aſſizes or ſeſſions. In the reign of Henry the Third, it was a borough, and in the fourteenth of King Edward the Third ſent members to parliament. There are no leſs than fifty three townſhips belonging to the manor, which derives its name from the town, which are obliged to pay homage, and chuſe conſtables here. Of theſe townſhips there are eleven in this county, fifteen in Buckinghamſhire, and twenty-ſeven in Northamptonſhire. King James the Firſt, to whoſe children this place was a nurſery, made it a corporation, by the name of bailiff and burgeſſes of Berkhamſtead St. Peter; the burgeſſes to be twelve, to chuſe a recorder and town clerk, and to have a priſon: but the corporation was ſo impoveriſhed by the civil wars, in the next reign, that the government dropped, and has not ſince been renewed.

The ſituation of Berkhamſted is extremely pleaſant, being built on the ſide of a hill, chiefly conſiſting of a good ſtreet of conſiderable length. The church is a ſpacious Gothic edifice, dedicated to St. Peter, and has many chapels and oratories, where maſs uſed to be ſaid in the times of Popery. On the pillars of the church are eleven of the apoſtles, and over each of them a ſentence of the creed; and on the twelfth pillar is St. George killing the dragon. Here is an alms-houſe built by Mr. John Say e and his wife, who endowed it with 1300l. for the maintenance of ſix poor widows. Here is alſo a charity ſchool, and a free-grammar-ſchool; the grammar ſchool is a handſome brick ſtructure, and is well endowed, the King being patron, and the warden of All Souls college in Oxford, viſitor.

HEMPSTED

Is four miles from Berkhamſted, and twenty three from London. It was incorporated by King Henry VIII. It is governed by a bailiff, and the inhabitants are empowered to have a common ſeal, and a pye powder court, during its market and fairs. It is pleaſantly ſituated on a ſmall river, called the Gade, and ſurrounded with hills. The church, which ſtands at a little diſtance from the the town, is an ancient gothic ſtructure, with a ſquare tower, and a fine ſpire. The market here is the greateſt in Hertfordſhire for wheat; and 20,000l. is ſaid to be often returned weekly for meal. There are eleven mills ſtand within four miles of the place, which bring a great trade to it.

About four miles from Hempſted is *King's Langley*, which is a large and pleaſant village, where King Edward III. built a fine palace, wherein he often reſided, of which ſome part ſtill remains. And here his fifth ſon Edmund, commonly called De Langley, was born; and this prince, with his wife Iſabel, daughter of Don Pedro, King of Caſtile, lies buried in this church, which is a venerable Gothic ſtructure.

Abbots Langley is another agreeable village in this neighbourhood, which belonged to the abbey of St. Albans. The church is an handſome edifice, ſituated in the middle of the village, and at the end is a fine tower. This was the birth place of Nicholas Breakeſpeare, who was elected pope under the name of Adrian IV.

Redburne is a village on the high road leading to Dunſtable, which contains many handſome houſes, and ſeveral good inns; for being a great thoroughfare, the waggons from Birmingham, Shrewſbury, Wolverhampton, and many other places, put up at it the night before they reach London. It is an agreeable place, and was formerly much frequented by dovotees, on account of the pretended relics of Amphibalus, a martyr, who is ſaid to have preached the goſpel here in the third century.

Flamſtead, on the left hand of the road, about four miles beyond Redburne, was formerly a market town, and had ſeveral fairs; but they are diſcontinued. The church is a venerable Gothic ſtructure, ſituate on a hill, with a ſquare tower and a lofty ſpire, which are ſeen at a great diſtance. The church has three iſles, and in them are ſeveral ancient monuments.

STEVENAGE is a ſmall, but ancient market-town in Hertfordſhire, in the great north road. The church was built upon a dry

a dry ſandy hill; the houſes in the town are but indifferent; but there is a good free-ſchool, with an ancient hoſpital, and ſeveral alms-houſes.—A little to the ſouth of this town are the remains of an ancient camp, by ſome ſuppoſed to have been made by the Romans, although others have aſcribed it to the Danes; and there is a place near it ſtill known by the name of Danes-end.

STANDON is a ſmall town on the river Rib, which has an handſome church, and ſeveral endowments for a ſchool, and for the poor.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD

Is thirty miles from London, and thirteen from Stevenage. It derives its name from a ford over the river Stort, at the bottom of the town, which, ever ſince the time of William the Norman, has belonged to the biſhops of London. King John made this a corporation town, with power to chuſe its own officers, and it formerly ſent members to parliament, but has long ago loſt that privilege. The biſhop of London appoints a bailiff here, for what is called his liberty, and to him are directed ſheriff's warrants, to be executed in this and ſeveral of the neighbouring pariſhes. The biſhop holds his courts leet and baron at the manor of Padmore, at the north end of the town.

This is a conſiderable, well-built place, full of good inns, being a thoroughfare to Cambridge, Newmarket, and ſeveral towns in Suffolk. It conſiſts of four ſtreets, in the form of a croſs, pointing eaſt, weſt, north and ſouth. It has a church, which ſtands on a hill, in the middle of the town, with an handſome tower, a fine ring of eight bells, and a ſpire, covered with lead, fifty feet high. This church had an organ ſo long ago as the time of Henry the Seventh, and is thought to be very ancient, becauſe in one of the windows were the names and pictures of king Athelſtan, St. Edward, and king Edward. Here are two alms-houſes and a grammar-ſchool; the ſchool was built about half a century ago, by the contribution of the gentry, both of this county and Eſſex. It ſtands in the high ſtreet, upon arches, under which are ſhops and a market; it fronts the church-yard, and conſiſts of three rooms, which, with the ſtair-caſe, make a ſquare building; the front to the ſtreet is the grammar-ſchool, and the two wings are the writing-ſchool and library, to which every ſcholar, when he leaves the ſchool, gives a book.

The river of *Hunſdon*, which is ſituated on the river Stort, was ſo much eſteemed in former times for its healthy ſituation, that

King

King Henry VIII. erected a houſe here, to which he often reſorted, and in which he had his children brought up. It ſtands on a high hill, from whence there is a moſt delightful proſpect; and underneath are meadows, with the river winding in the moſt agreeable manner. Near it is the houſe where the royal children received their education, which is now the ſeat of a private gentleman. The gardens are laid out with great taſte, and there is a large baſon, from whence water is conveyed to the different plantations in the gardens.

BUNTINGFORD

Is a ſmall town, ſituated at the ford of a ſmall river, called the Rib, in the poſt-road to Cambridge, at the diſtance of thirty-one miles from London. It ſtands in four pariſhes, in one of which, called Layſton, it is a chapelry. The chapel is an handſome brick ſtructure, finiſhed in 1626. Here is a ſumptuous alms-houſe, founded and endowed by Dr. Seth Ward, Biſhop of Saliſbury, for four ancient men, and as many ancient women, who, from a ſtate of affluence, were reduced by misfortunes to poverty. Each man and each woman has an apartment conſiſting of four rooms, two above and two below, with every convenience that can be reaſonably wiſhed for or expected. An eſtate was alſo left for their ſupport, by the ſame prelate. There is a free-grammar ſchool in this town, wherein Biſhop Ward was educated, he being a native of this place; he gave four ſcholarſhips, of twelve pounds a year, to Chriſt's college in Cambridge, to be enjoyed by four ſcholars, natives of Hertfordſhire, who were educated at this ſchool, till they are maſters of arts.

The village of *Braughing*, which is at a little diſtance from hence, was conſidered as a place of great importance when the Romans were in Britain; and by many is ſuppoſed to be the Caſſeromagum of Antoninus. There are near it the ruins of a Roman camp, which appears to have been ſtrongly fortified, and many coins have been dug up near it. The church in this village is a very handſome edifice. Near the church-yard is an old houſe, at preſent inhabited by poor families, but which was originally deſigned for a very different purpoſe. Some centuries ago, a perſon of fortune, whoſe name is not at preſent known, built this houſe, and endowed it with a ſufficient ſalary, to defray the expences attending the weddings of the poorer ſort of people in the pariſh. It contained all ſorts of neceſſary furniture, with a large kitchen, a cauldron for boiling meat, and ſpits for what they intended to roaſt. Here was alſo a large room for merri-

ment

ment, a lodging-room with a bride-bed, and good linen; ſome of which furniture was in being a few years ago.

BARKWAY is a flouriſhing and populous town, at the diſtance of thirty-five miles from London, and being a conſiderable thoroughfare in the north-road, contains ſome good inns. The church in this town is an handſome Gothic ſtructure, and ſeveral of the windows in it are painted; and in one of them is an abſurd and ſuperſtitious repreſentation of the Deity creating the world, which is a diſgrace to a Proteſtant church.

BALDOCK is thirty-ſeven miles from London, and ſtands between two hills, in a chalky ſoil, fit for corn It is a pretty large town, and in the middle of it is an handſome church, with three chancels, and a beautiful tower: among other benefactions to the poor of the place, Mr. John Winne gave 11,000l. to build ſix alms-houſes, and purchaſe lands to raiſe an annuity of forty ſhillings a piece to every poor perſon ſettled in them. Here are many maltſters, and the market of this town is very conſiderable both for corn and malt.

HITCHING

Is one of the beſt built, and moſt populous towns in the county of Hertford. It ſtands in a pleaſant valley, at the diſtance of thirty-four miles from London; and is governed by a bailiff and four conſtables, two for the town, and two for the out-parts. It is divided into the three wards of Bencroft, Bridge, and Tilthouſe. It is ſaid to have been formerly one of the greateſt places of inland trade in England, and many merchants both from France and Flanders reſided here, to purchaſe our commodities, and to diſpoſe of their own. Here is an handſome church, 153 feet long, and 67 broad, with three chancels. Here is a free-ſchool, a charity-ſchool, and eight alms-houſes. Large quantities of malt are made in this town, and it is a great market for all ſorts of grain. There is a meeting here for Proteſtant Diſſenters.

The village of *Hexton*, near Hitching, is remarkable for a bloody battle fought between the Saxons and Danes, wherein it is ſuppoſed ſome perſons of conſiderable note were ſlain, becauſe there are ſeveral funeral monuments near the place. There is alſo at a little diſtance from hence a very ſtrong camp, which is conjectured to have been thrown up by the Danes, to defend themſelves in caſe of their being defeated, until they received freſh ſuccours from their countrymen. It is raiſed in an oblong manner, and ſo ſtrongly fortified both by nature and art, that a thouſand men might defend themſelves in it againſt a conſiderable

able army.—A little to the ſouth of Hexton, is a fine piece of ground, called *Lilibo*, on a riſing ground, where horſe-races are held, and from whence there is an extenſive and beautiful proſpect.

L U T O N.

This is an handſome town in Bedfordſhire, ſituated between two hills, at the diſtance of thirty-two miles from London. The inhabitants carry on a conſiderable manufactory of ſtraw hats. In the middle of the town is a good market-houſe, which on the market-day, which is Monday, is well furniſhed with corn, poultry, and other proviſions; and there are two fairs held here, one on the 25th of April, and the other on the 18th of October.

At a little diſtance from hence is LUTON HOO, a fine ſeat belonging to the Earl of Bute. It is an elegant pile of building, and that nobleman, who ſeems to underſtand decorating a country ſeat, much better than governing a kingdom, has expended very conſiderable ſums of money in ornamenting this retreat. The entrance to it is through a lodge facing the town of Luton, and the walk up to the houſe is along a fine artificial river, which was formerly nothing more than a ſmall ſtream. On the right hand is a riſing ground, whereon are ſome exceeding fine plantations, and on the left are a vaſt number of trees, planted ſo as to imitate nature, along the banks of the ſtream. The Earl has cauſed an artificial lake to be made, and in the middle of it is a ſmall iſland, to which you paſs by a pleaſure boat, and from whence the proſpect is extenſive and delightful.

On the iſland are fine plantations of young trees; and as you advance towards the houſe, you paſs through a fine row of elms, and on each ſide are large clumps of beech, which add greatly to the beauty of the ſcene. Through theſe trees there is a fine proſpect of the neighbouring hills, fields, and cottages; whilſt the towers and ſpires of ſteeples, lead the ſpectator into a pleaſing deception, by cauſing him to imagine, that what he beholds is actually a rural city. In a pleaſing valley, near the houſe, is a monumental pillar, elegantly executed in the Tuſcan order, and ſeen to the greateſt advantage through the trees, on the pedeſtal of which is the following inſcription, "In memory of Mr. "Francis Napier."

DUNSTABLE

Is a populous town, thirty-four miles from London, built on the ſpot where two Roman ways, called Watling-ſtreet, and Icknild-ſtreet, croſs each other; and Roman coins have ſometimes been found here. The town is ſituated on a hill of chalk, juſt at the end of a long ridge of hills, called the Chiltern. Here are four ſtreets, anſwering to the four cardinal winds; and becauſe of the dryneſs of the ſoil, where they cannot find ſprings, have each a pond, which though only ſupplied by rain water, is never dry. There are ſeveral good inns here. King Henry the Firſt built and endowed a Priory of Black Canons here; and the church of Dunſtable is part of that which belonged to the Priory, and is a noble Gothic ſtructure. There is a tomb-ſtone in this church, from which it appears, that a woman in the town had nineteen children at five births, having been delivered twice of five, and three times of three. There is a large manufactory of ſtraw hats carried on in this town, and another of lace, by which almoſt all the poor women and girls are employed. There was formerly a royal palace here, which ſtood over againſt the church, and there are ſtill ſome remains of it, which have been repaired and converted into a farm houſe, ſtill called Kingſbury. At the weekly market, which is on Wedneſday, vaſt quantities of corn are ſold; and there are four fairs held here annually, namely, on Aſh-Wedneſday, the 22d of May, the 12th of Auguſt, and the 12th of November.

In a plain upon the top of the chalk-hills, near Dunſtable, is an area, of about eight or nine acres of land, vulgarly called "the Maiden's Bower." Some have imagined it to have been a Britiſh camp, and others a work thrown up by the Danes. The rampart is high, and the Icknild ſtreet runs along the bottom of the hill. The road along the chalk-hill is extremely dangerous in froſty weather, and has occaſioned many fatal accidents, both to men and horſes. But ſome years ago the gentlemen of Bedfordſhire entered into a ſubſcription, for ſloping the hill, near the town, for the benefit of the road, and there are conſtantly employed a certain number of hands to keep it in order.—Dunſtable is remarkable for larks, which are ſaid to be in greater plenty, and of a larger ſize, near this town, than any where elſe in the kingdom.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD is a ſmall market town, ſeven miles and an half from Dunſtable, which has little in it that is remarkable; but its market is well ſtored with cattle, and its Witſuntide fairs with horſes.

WOBURN

Is a ſmall market-town, forty-three miles from London, and being ſituated on the road to Northampton, &c. contains many good inns. The whole town belongs to the Duke of Bedford, and that noble family have endowed here two charity-ſchools. In 1724, about one hundred houſes were burnt down, which are ſince neatly re-built; and a fine market-houſe has been erected, at the expence of the Duke of Bedford; ſo that the town now makes an handſome appearance. The principal trade of this place conſiſts in the making of jockeys caps, and digging fuller's earth, of which there are great quantities in the neighbourhood.

WOBURN ABBEY, the noble ſeat of the Duke of Bedford, is in the neighbourhood of this town; and was originally built by Hugh Bolebec, a powerful baron in the reign of King Stephen. It was intended for the uſe of the monks of the Ciſtertian order, who came in great ſwarms into this kingdom in the twelfth century. At the diſſolution of the monaſteries, the lands and manors belonging to this abbey were given to Sir John Ruſſel, anceſtor of the preſent Duke; and this ſpacious and elegant houſe, which is ſituated in the middle of the park, is erected where the convent formerly ſtood.

The houſe forms a large quadrangle, with an handſome court in the center, fronting which is a large baſon, ſupplied with water from its own ſprings. Behind are two large quadrangles of offices diſtinct from the houſe, which are very beautiful buildings; plain and ſimple, but extremely proper for their deſtination. They are built like the houſe, of white ſtone; and in the center of their principal front is a ſmall dome, riſing over a porticoed center, ſupported by Tuſcan pillars, which have a very good effect.

In the houſe you enter firſt the *Hall*, which is an handſome room, the cieling of which is ſupported by eight pillars. The *Green Drawing Room* is extremely elegant: between the windows are fine glaſſes, and two very noble ſlabs of Egyptian marble. The chimney-piece is of white marble poliſhed, and very handſome. In this room are pictures of the plagues of Egypt, David and Abigal, and a very fine landſcape. What is called the *Decker-worked Room* contains a bed of uncommon elegance, of decker work lined with green ſilk. The work is exquiſite, and the repreſentation of the birds and beaſts in it admirable. The chimney-piece is very elegant; the ſcroll of poliſhed white marble in a light and elegant taſte.

The

The *Dining Room* is a very noble room. The chimney-piece is elegant, with a feſtoon of flowers carved in white marble, and finely poliſhed. In the room are four large pictures of the battles of Alexander. In the *Yellow Drawing Room* are two fine portraits by Sir Joſhua Reynolds, one of the late Marquis of Taviſtock, and the other of the preſent Dutcheſs of Marlborough. The chimney-piece is very elegant, and the pier-glaſs frame finely carved of plated ſilver. Here is alſo a portrait of the late Duke of Bedford.

In the *Coffee Room* is a ſmall portrait of Francis, Earl of Bedford, which is exceedingly fine, the face and hands admirably painted. The *Grotto* is pretty of its kind; with baſs relief figures of ruſtic in ſhells, and fine china jars. The *Billiard Room* is hung with very fine tapeſtry, deſigned from Raphael's cartoons. The *Dutcheſs's Dreſſing Room* is extremely elegant, hung with emboſſed work on white paper, which has a very pleaſing effect. The chimney-piece has a carved ſcroll in wood, the marble black and veined. The pier-glaſs is large, and the frame very elegant; and over the chimney-piece is a portrait of Lady Oſſory, by Hudſon. The chairs and ſofas are of painted taffeta.

The *French-Bed-chamber* is exceedingly elegant; the bed and hangings are of a very rich belmozeen ſilk. The chimney-piece is light and beautiful; the cornice feſtoons of gilt carving on a white ground, and the cieling of the ſame on a lead ground; the pier-glaſs and frame, and the frame of the landſcape over the chimney are very elegant.

The *Dreſſing Room* is likewiſe hung with the ſame ſilk, the cieling and cornice richly ornamented with ſcrolls of gilding on a white ground: the chimney-piece is all of white marble poliſhed. The doors, door-caſes, and window-ſhutters, &c. are all ornamented like the cieling, in white and gold. In this room are four very large blue and white china jars; the two by the windows are uncommonly fine.

The *State Bed-chamber* is moſt magnificently furniſhed. The bed and hangings are of very rich blue damaſk; the cieling ornamented in compartments of rich gilding on a white ground. The chimney-piece, of marble poliſhed, is very elegant; and the carved and gilt ornaments around the landſcape over it in a beautiful taſte: the toilette is all of very handſome Dreſden work, the glaſs frame, and boxes of gold. An India cabinet on each ſide of old japan, with coloured china jars exquiſitely fine.

The *Dreſſing Room* is hung with green damaſk; the chimney-piece is very handſome, and the pier-glaſs fine. The *Drawing Room* is exceedingly elegant; the cieling a Moſaic pattern of rich carving on a white ground; the chimney piece exceſſively

handſome, the cornice ſupported by double pillars, of very fine Siena marble. The pier-glaſſes immenſely large, and in one plate; under them moſt noble ſlabs of Siena marble. In this room are ſeveral exquiſite paintings, particulary a landſcape by Claude Lorraine, repreſenting a ſhip partly appearing from behind a building amazingly beautiful; the diffuſion of light, the general brilliancy, and the harmony of the whole, are admirable. A holy family, very fine, the turn of the boy's head is inimitable. A virgin and child; the hair of the virgin's head, and her attitude are moſt ſweetly elegant and expreſſive. A Magdalen; very fine. The inſide of a church; the minute expreſſion of the architecture, and the rays of light are finely done. A rock, with the broken branches hanging from its clefts, ſuppoſed to be by Salvator; the expreſſion is very noble, and the romantic wildneſs of the ſcene moſt excellently repreſented. A holy family; the child ſtanding in the cradle; a very pleaſing picture. Joſeph interpreting the dreams of Pharaoh, by Rembrandt; moſt admirably executed; in a greater ſtile than is common with this maſter. Rembrandt by himſelf; inimitably done. The Ducheſs of Bedford, preſenting Lady Caroline to Minerva, by Hamilton; this is a very large picture, and ſome of the figures not inelegantly done for this maſter.

The *Saloon* is moſt magnificently fitted up, and elegantly furniſhed; the cieling beautiful, of gilt carving on white; the door caſe finely carved and gilt, the cornices ſupported by Corinthian pillars in a noble, but light and pleaſing ſtile; the chimney-piece of white marble, beautifully poliſhed: in the center hangs a magnificent luſture. Here is a fine picture repreſenting the laſt ſupper; the drawing is in a free and bold ſtile; and a fine piece of angels, ſuppoſed to be painted by Albano.

The *Second Dining-room* is a very noble room, the cieling white and gold, and the chimney piece very elegant, over which is a fine landſcape. *The Second Drawing-room* is very elegantly fitted up; and among other pictures contains two capital landſcapes, morning and evening, by Marrat; two paintings of battles; and one of lyons, by Rubens. The *Picture Gallery* is ornamented by a vaſt number of elegant portaits of the Ruſſel family; and among thoſe which are moſt finely executed, are the portraits of William, Earl of Bedford, the Counteſs of Somerſet, and Lady Catharine Brooke. The ornaments of this room are all carving painted white. There are four ſtatues here, one of which is a Venus of Medicis, and another Venus plucking a thorn from out of her foot.

WOBURN PARK is one of the largeſt in the kingdom, being ten miles round, all walled in, and contains a great variety of hill and dale, with fine woods of the nobleſt oaks. We paſs

from

from the houſe through them towards the ſouth, and look up the great glade, which is cut through the park for ſeveral miles, at the end of which appears a Chineſe temple. Then winding through the woods we come to the Ducheſs's Shrubbery, which contains ſixteen acres of land beautifully laid out in the modern taſte, with many venerable oaks in it. From whence we advance to the hill at the north end, from which is a vaſt proſpect into Buckinghamſhire, Hertfordſhire, and Bedfordſhire. Turning down the hill to the left, the riding leads to the ever-green plantation of above two hundred acres of land, which little more than thirty years ago was a barren rabbit warren, but is now a very beautiful winter's ride, on a dry ſoil, with all kinds of ever-greens of a noble growth. About the middle on the left hand ſide, is an handſome temple, retired and pleaſing; at the end of this plantation, we come to the lower water, which is about ten acres, and in the center is an iſland with a very elegant and light Chineſe temple, large enough for thirty people to dine in; and in the adjoining wood is a kitchen, and other accommodations for making ready the repaſts the Duke takes in the temple. And in the front of the houſe is a large baſon of water, in which are ſeveral handſome boats.

AMPTHILL

Is a ſmall market-town, forty-four miles from London, pleaſantly ſituated between two hills, almoſt in the heart of Bedfordſhire. Here is a charity-ſchool, and an hoſpital for ten poor men, who have each a conſiderable weekly allowance.—This place is chiefly remarkable for a large manſion-houſe, which belongs alſo to the Duke of Bedford. It was repaired and fitted up in 1765, for the uſe of the late Marquis of Taviſtock. It was firſt built by Sir John Cornwall, in the reign of King Henry VI. out of the ſpoils taken from the French; but afterwards came by forfeiture to the crown. Queen Katherine of Arragon, ſometimes reſided in this houſe, after her divorce from Henry VIII. The hall is adorned with a capital collection of paintings by the beſt Italian maſters, which the late Marquis of Taviſtock collected whilſt he was abroad on his travels.

At *Houghton Park*, near Ampthill, the Earl of Upper Oſſory has a fine ſeat, which was firſt built by the Counteſs of Pembroke. The houſe is a noble and venerable edifice, containing many fine rooms; and the gardens are laid out with much taſte and magnificence. There is ſtill a large pear-tree here, under which the celebrated Sir Philip Sydney is ſaid to have written part of his Arcadia.

Weſtoning

Weſtoning is a pleaſant village, which has a venerable church, that ſtands in an agreeable and rural ſituation. The Earl of Pomfret has a ſeat here.

Near Silſoe is WREST-HOUSE, a magnificent ſeat, with a large park, which belonged to the ancient family of De Grey, Dukes of Kent. It now belongs to the Earl of Hardwicke, who acquired it by his marriage with Jemima Marchioneſs Grey, and Baroneſs Lucas, who is a peereſs in her own right. In an hermitage here is the following inſcription, which was written by a perſon who came on a viſit to this agreeable retreat.

" Stranger, or gueſt, whome'er this hallow'd grove
" Shall chance relieve where ſweet contentment dwells,
" Bring here no heart that with ambition ſwells,
" With av'rice pines, or burns with lawleſs love.
" Vice-tainted ſouls will all in vain remove
" To ſylvan ſhades, and hermits peaceful cells;
" In vain will ſeek retirement's lenient ſpells,
" Or hope that bliſs, which only good men prove
" If heav'n-born truth, and ſacred virtue's love,
" Which chear, adorn, and dignify the mind,
" Are conſtant inmates of thy honeſt breaſt;
" If, unrepining at thy neighbour's ſtore,
" Thou count'ſt as thine the good of all mankind,
" Then, welcome, ſhare the friendly groves of *W'reſt.*"

At a little diſtance from hence is ehe village of *Cophill*, which is a pretty rural place, not far from which is a fine ſeat belonging to Earl Granville, known by the name of *Hawnes.*

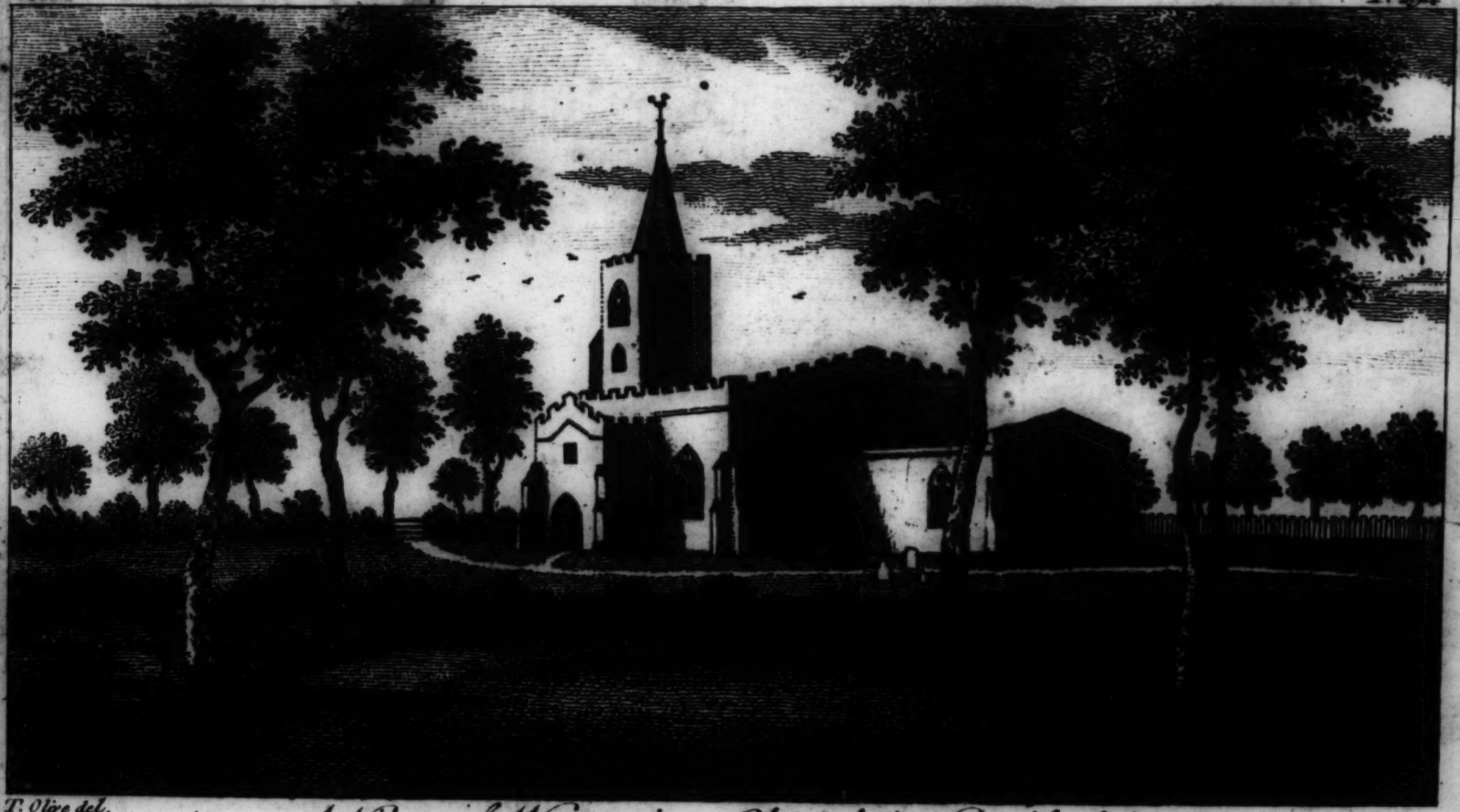
SHEFFORD is a ſmall market-town, pleaſantly ſituated between two rivulets, over each of which there is a bridge.—At a little diſtance from hence is *Chickſand Priory*, the ſeat of Sir George Osborne, Bart.

At *Southill* in this neighbourhood, is a fine ſeat of the Lord Torrington's.

At *Northill*, there is a very fine window in the chancel of the church, painted by Oliver; and the rector of that church has two ſmall pieces of painted glaſs by the ſame maſter, which are of uncommon excellence.—The pariſh of *Sandy*, near Northill, is much noted for its gardens; there are above one hundred and fifty acres of land occupied by many gardeners, who ſupply the whole country, for many miles, with garden ſtuff, even to Hertford.

Cardington is a very neat and agreeable village; moſt of the houſes and cottages are new-built, all of them tiled, and many of brick; which, with white paies, and little plantations, have a moſt pleaſing effect.

BED-



T. Olive del.

A View of Westoning Church in Bedfordshire.

BEDFORD

Is forty-eight miles from London, and is the county-town, being a clean, well-built, and populous place. The town, as well as the county, is divided into two parts by the river Ouſe, which croſſes it in the direction of eaſt and weſt; the north and ſouth parts of the town are joined by a ſtone bridge, which has two gates. The aſſizes are always held here; and the town is governed by a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, twelve aldermen, two chamberlains, and other officers. There are five churches here, three on the north, and two on the ſouth ſide of the river. The chief of them, and indeed the principal ornament of the town, is St. Paul's, which had once a college of prebendaries. There was a famous caſtle here, which was demoliſhed in the reign of Henry VIII. and the ſcite is now a bowling-green: it ſtands high and pleaſant, and is reckoned one of the fineſt in England.

There is a good free-ſchool in this town, which was founded by Sir William Harpur, Lord Mayor of London in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. This gentleman was a native of Bedford, and now lies buried in one of the churches. Near the free-ſchool are two ancient hoſpitals, for lazars, and an alms houſe for eight poor perſons, beſides a charity-ſchool for forty children, partly endowed, and partly ſupported by voluntary ſubſcription. But the moſt conſiderable proviſion made for the poor of Bedford was, a field where Bedford-Row ſtands, behind Gray's Inn, London, which at the time the donation was made, produced only a ſmall rent, but now, by the encreaſe of buildings, and the expiration of leaſes, is become extremely valuable. It was given to the town, that the rents might be applied to the portioning young women, when they entered into the marriage ſtate, and to put out poor children as apprentices. If this large eſtate be managed with judgment and integrity, it may be rendered a charitable inſtitution of a very extenſive and beneficial nature.

Bedford ſends two members to parliament, who are choſen by all the freemen, the mayor being the returning officer. The liberties of the corporation extend about nine miles round the town. There are ſome good inns here, and proviſions of all ſorts are in great plenty. There is a lace manufactory here, which employs about five hundred women and girls.

The *Vale of Bedford*, which is a perfect flat tract of land for ſome miles round the town, is very rich in ſoil, and excellently cultivated, producing noble crops of wheat, barley, and turnips.

At *Clapham*, about two miles from Bedford, is a fine ſeat belonging to the Earl of Aſhburnham; and near it is *Oakly*, a ſeat belonging to the Duke of Bedford. At *Brumham*, which is on the weſt ſide of the river Ouſe, Lord Trevor has a fine ſeat.

Harewood, or *Harold*, is a place of conſiderable antiquity, but is now reduced to a village. Here was formerly a nunnery of the order of St. Auguſtine. Part of the church is ſtill remaining, and appears to have been a very elegant Gothic building.

BIGGLESWADE

Is a market-town, five miles from Bedford, and forty-five from London. It is pleaſantly ſituated on the banks of the river Ivel, over which there is a good ſtone bridge; and lighters come up with coals to the town. There was formerly a ſmall college for ſecular prieſts here. At preſent the town is in a flouriſhing condition, and has ſome good inns in it, being a great thoroughfare in the road from London to York. Its weekly market is on Tueſday, and it is reckoned one of the greateſt in England for barley.

There is a village called *Wardon*, near *Biggleſwade*, where a monaſtery was founded for the monks of the Ciſtertian order, in the latter end of the reign of King Henry I. which was endowed with lands to a conſiderable value.

BEFORE we conclude this Volume, we ſhall make ſome general remarks on the ſeveral COUNTIES, in which thoſe places are ſituated which we have already deſcribed.

SURREY is bounded by the river Thames, which parts it from Middleſex, on the north; by Suſſex on the ſouth; by Kent on the eaſt; and by Berkſhire and Hampſhire on the weſt. It is about thirty-four mile in length, twenty-one in breadth, and one hundred and twelve miles in circumference; and contains thirteen hundreds, one hundred and forty pariſhes, thirteen market towns, four hundred and fifty villages and hamlets, and about five hundred and ninety-two thouſand acres. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and dioceſe of Wincheſter.

The air and ſoil in the middle and extreme parts of this county are very different. Towards the borders of the county, eſpecially on the north-ſide, near the Thames, and on the

ſouth

ſouth ſide, in and near a vale called Holmſdale, that ſtretches for ſeveral miles from Darking to the county of Kent, the air is mild and healthy, and the ſoil fruitful in corn and hay, with a fine mixture of woods and fields; but in ſome parts of the county the air is rather bleak. Surrey contains many delightful places, though ſome parts of it conſiſt chiefly of open and ſandy ground, and barren heaths. The air of Cottman Dean, near Darking, has been reputed the beſt in England. The principal commodities of this county are corn, box-wood, wallnuts, and fullers earth. There is a kind of wild black cherry, that grows about Darking, of which the inhabitants make conſiderable quantities of red wine, which is ſaid to be little inferior to French claret, and much more wholeſome. The county in general is well provided with river fiſh, and the Wandle is famous for plenty of fine trout.

The rivers of this county are the Thames, the Mole, the Wey, and the Wandle. The *Mole* riſes near Oakley, ſouth-weſt of Darking, and running eaſtward for ſeveral miles, along the borders of Suſſex, forms an angle, and directs its courſe north-weſt. At the bottom of a hill called Boxhill, near Darking, the ſtream diſappears, and paſſes under ground in a place called the Swallow, probably from the river being ſwallowed up there. From this circumſtance the river is alſo ſometimes called the Swallow; and it appears to have derived the name Mole from working its way under ground; for it is generally believed, that from the bottom of Box-hill, where it is ſwallowed up, it works a paſſage for more than two miles to Leatherhead, where it is ſuppoſed to ſpring up anew; and from whence it continues its courſe northward, till it falls into the Thames, over-againſt Hampton-Court, in the county of Middleſex. Some late writers have, however, been of opinion, that the ſtream of the Mole is altogether loſt at the Swallow, and is not the ſame that riſes at Leatherhead; but rather that the waters iſſue from a new ſpring, and that the river formed by them is another river; though from a belief of its being the ſame river, it obtained the ſame name. The *Wey* riſes not far from Alton, a market-town of Hampſhire, and directing its courſe eaſtwards, enters this county at Farnham, from whence it paſſes in the ſame direction to Godalming, and there forming an angle, it runs northward by Guildford, from thence to Woking, and running north-eaſt, empties itſelf by a double mouth into the Thames, about a mile from Chertſey. This river is navigable to Godalming, and its navigation is of great benefit to the ſouth-weſt parts of Surrey, by ſupplying the inhabitants with coals, and many other neceſſaries, from London. The *Wandle*, or *Vandal*, riſes at Carſhalton, near Croydon, and running north,

with a ſmall, but clear ſtream, falls into the river Thames at Wandſworth.

MIDDLESEX derives its name from its having been inhabited by the Middle Saxons, who were thus diſtinguiſhed, on account of their ſituation in the Middle, between the three antient kingdoms of the Eaſt, Weſt, and South Saxons, by which they were ſurrounded. This county is bounded by Hertfordſhire on the north; by the river Thames, which divides it from the county of Surrey, on the ſouth; by the river Colne, which ſeparates it from Buckinghamſhire, on the weſt; and by the river Lea, which divides it from the county of Eſſex on the eaſt. It extends ſcarcely twenty four miles in length, about eighteen in breadth, and is not more than ninety-five miles in circumference; but as it comprehends the cities of London and Weſtminſter, which ſtand in the ſouth eaſt part of the county, it is by much the wealthieſt and moſt populous county in England. It is divided into ſix hundreds, and two liberties; and contains two cities and five market-towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and dioceſe of London; and excluſive of London and Weſtminſter, has ſeventy-three pariſh churches, beſides chapels of eaſe.

The air of Middleſex is very pleaſant and healthy, to which a fine gravelly ſoil contributes not a little. The ſoil produces plenty of corn; and the county abounds with fertile meadows and gardeners grounds; for the art of gardening, aſſiſted by the rich compoſt from London, is brought to much greater perfection in this county than in any other part of England.

The rivers of this county are the Thames, the Colne, the Lea, and the New River. The *Thames* is one of the fineſt and moſt beautiful rivers in the world; and at London, the depth of it is ſufficient, not only for the navigation of large ſhips, but for making it, what it really is, one of the greateſt ports for trade in the univerſe. Its water is extremely wholeſome, and fit for uſe in the longeſt voyages, during which, it will work and ferment itſelf like ſtrong liquor, till it becomes perfectly fine. It abounds with a great variety of fiſh, among which, its ſalmons, ſmelts, and flounders are particularly admired.

ESSEX is bounded by Suffolk and Cambridgeſhire on the north; by the German Ocean on the eaſt; by the river Thames, which ſeparates it from the county of Kent on the ſouth; and by the counties of Middleſex and Hertford on the weſt. It is about fifty miles in length, thirty-five in breadth, and one hundred and forty in circumference; and contains twenty hundreds, twenty-two market-towns, four hundred and fifteen pariſhes,

and

and one million two hundred and forty thouſand acres. It abounds with corn, cattle, and wild fowl; and the north parts of it, eſpecially about Saffron-walden, produce great quantities of ſaffron. Abundance of oxen and ſheep are fed in the marſhes near the Thames, and ſent to the markets of London. The inhabitants of this county have plenty of fiſh of all ſorts from the ſea and rivers; and by the ſea ſide are decoys, which in the winter ſeaſon produce great profit to their owners. Towards the ſea, the air of this county is aguiſh, though it is more ſo in regard to ſtrangers than the natives. The principal manufactures of this county are cloths and ſtuffs, but particularly bays and ſays, of which, not half a century ago, ſuch quantities were exported to Spain and the Spaniſh colonies in America, to cloath the nuns and friars, that there has often been a return from London of 30,000l. a week, in ready money only, to Colcheſter and a few ſmall towns round it.

The principal rivers in this county are the Stour, the Lea, the Coln, the Blackwater, and the Chelmer. The *Stour* riſes in the north-weſt part of Eſſex, aud running ſouth eaſt, ſeparates it from Suffolk, and falls into the German Ocean at Harwich. The *Lea* riſes in the north-weſt part of the county, runs almoſt directly ſouth, and ſeparating Eſſex from the counties of Hertford and Middleſex, falls into the Thames at Blackwall. The *Coln* riſes alſo in the north-weſt part of Eſſex, and running ſouth-weſt to Halſted, runs parallel to the river Stour, and paſſes by Colcheſter, where, forming an angle, it runs ſouth-ſouth eaſt, and falls into the German Ocean, about ſeven or eight miles ſouth-eaſt from that town. The *Blackwater* riſes alſo in the north-weſt part of Eſſex, and running ſouth-eaſt, paſſes by Braintree and falls into the Chelmer at Malden. The *Chelmer* riſes within two or three miles of the ſource of the river Blackwater, and running nearly parallel to it, paſſes to Chelmsford, where, forming an angle, it runs directly eaſt, and receiving the Blackwater, falls into the German Ocean near Malden.

KENT is bounded by Suſſex and the Engliſh channel on the ſouth, by the river Thames and the German ſea on the north, by the ſame ſea on the eaſt, and by Surrey on the weſt. This county is divided into five lathes, which are ſubdivided into fourteen bailiwicks, and theſe again into ſixty eight hundreds. A lathe is a diviſion peculiar to Kent and Suſſex, and conſiſts of two or more bailiwicks, as a bailiwick does of two or more hundreds. Kent contains two cities, and twenty-nine market-towns, e even hundred and eighty villages, and about one million two hundred and forty-eight thouſand acres. It lies in the province

of Canterbury, and partly in that dioceſe, and partly in the dioceſe of Rocheſter, and has four hundred and eight pariſhes.

The county is nominally divided into three diſtricts, Eaſt-Kent, Weſt-Kent, and South-Kent; or Upper-Kent, Middle-Kent, and Lower-Kent. Upper-Kent, or Eaſt-Kent, which is in the north-eaſt diviſion, is ſaid to be healthy, but not wealthy; Lower-Kent, or the ſouth parts, called alſo the Weald of Kent, are ſaid to be wealthy, but not healthy; and Middle Kent, bordering upon London and Surrey, is ſaid to be both wealthy and healthy. In general, as great part of this county lies upon the ſea, the air is thick, foggy, and warm, though often purified by ſouth, and ſouth-weſt winds, and the ſhore being generally cleaner than that of Eſſex, the marſhy parts of Kent do not produce ſo many agues in the ſame degree as the hundreds of Eſſex; and the air in the higher parts of Kent is reckoned very healthy. The ſoil is generally rich, and fit for plough, paſture, or meadow; and that part of the county which borders upon the river Thames abounds with chalk-hills, from whence not only the city of London, and parts adjacent, but even Holland and Flanders, are ſupplied with lime and chalk; and from theſe hills the rubbiſh of the chalk is carried in lighters and hoys to the coaſts of Eſſex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, where it is ſold to the farmers as manure for their lands.

This county affords ſome mines of iron, and in general abounds with plantations of hops, fields of corn, and orchards of cherries, apples, and other fruit; it produces alſo wood and madder for dyers; and in the cliffs between Dover and Folkſtone, there is found plenty of ſamphire; hemp and St. Foin grow here in great abundance; and the ſouth and weſt parts of Kent, eſpecially that called the Weald, are covered with woods of oak, beech, and walnut trees, which afford great quantities of timber for ſhipping and other uſes; here are alſo many woods of birch, from which the broom-makers in and about London are abundantly ſupplied. The cattle here of all ſorts are reckoned larger than they are in the neighbouring counties; and the Weald of Kent is remarkable for large cattle; here are ſeveral parks of fallow deer, and warrens of grey rabbits; and this county, abounding in rivers, and being almoſt ſurrounded by the ſea, is well ſupplied with all manner of fiſh, and in particular is famous for large oyſters.

BERKSHIRE is bounded by Hampſhire on the ſouth; by Wiltſhire and Gloceſterſhire on the weſt; by the river Thames, which divides it from Buckinghamſhire and Oxfordſhire on the north; and on the eaſt by Middleſex and Surrey. It is about thirty-nine miles long, twenty-nine broad, and one hundred

hundred and twenty in circumference; and contains four parliamentary boroughs, twenty hundreds, twelve market-towns, one hundred and forty parishes, and six hundred and seventy-one villages.

The air of this county is healthy even in the vales, and tho' the soil in general is not the most fertile, yet the appearance of the country is remarkably pleasant, being delightfully varied with wood and water, which are seen at once in almost every prospect. This county is well stored with timber, particularly oak and beech; and some parts of it produce great quantities of wheat and barley. The whole of this county is in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Salisbury.

The river *Thames* washes more of this county than any other it touches; and from this circumstance Berkshire derives both fertility, and convenience for the carriage of its commodities to London, of which it sends a great many, particularly malt, meal, and timber. There are four other rivers in the county, the *Kennet*, great part of which is navigable, the *Lodden*, the *Ocke*, and the *Lambourne*, a small stream, which contrary to all other rivers, is always highest in summer, shrinks gradually as winter approaches, and at last is nearly, if not quite, dry.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE is bounded by the Thames, which divides it from Berkshire on the south; by Oxfordshire on the west; by Northamptonshire on the north; and by Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, and Middlesex on the east. It is thirty-nine miles in length, eighteen in breadth, and one hundred and thirty-eight in circumference; and contains eleven market-towns, eight hundreds, one hundred and eighty-five parishes, six hundred and fifteen villages, and about four hundred and forty-one thousand acres. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Lincoln.

This county is diversified with pleasant woods, and fine streams, which render it a charming retreat. Its chief rivers are the Thames, the Ouse, and the Coln. The soil is very fruitful, both in corn and pasture, and abounds with physical plants.

HERTFORDSHIRE is bounded by Cambridgeshire on the north; by Middlesex on the south; by Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire on the west, and by Essex on the east. It measures twenty eight miles from east to west, thirth-six miles from north to south, and one hundred and thirty miles in circumference; and is divided into eight hundreds, in which are eighteen market-towns, one hundred and twenty parishes, and about four hundred and fifty-one thousand acres. This county is watered

tered by ſeveral rivers, the chief of which are the Lea, the Colne, the Stort, the Ver, and the New River.

The air of this county is very pure, and conſequently healthy, and is often recommended by phyſicians to valetudinarians, for the preſervation or recovery of health. The ſoil is for the moſt part rich, and in ſeveral places mixed with a marle, which produces excellent wheat and barley. The chief produce of this county is wood, wheat, barley, and all other ſorts of grain; and the wheat and barley of Hertfordſhire are generally held in very high eſtimation. This county lies in the province of Canterbury, and partly in the dioceſe of London, and partly in that of Lincoln.

SUSSEX derives its name from a Saxon word which ſignified *the county of the South Saxons*. This county is bounded on the north by Surrey; on the eaſt and north-eaſt by Kent; on the ſouth by the Britiſh channel; and on the weſt by Hampſhire. It is about ſixty-five miles in length, twenty-nine in breadth, and one hundred and ſeven in circumference. It is divided into ſix rapes, or lathes, each of which is ſaid to have had its particular caſtle, river and foreſt. It is alſo ſubdivided into ſixty-five hundreds, wherein are reckoned three hundred and twelve pariſhes, one city, eighteen market-towns, and one thouſand and ſixty villages and hamlets.

The air of this county along the ſea coaſt, is aguiſh to ſtrangers; but the inhabitants in general are very healthy. In the north part of the county, bordering upon Kent and Surrey, the air is foggy, but not unhealthy; and upon the Downs it is exceedingly ſweet and pure. The ſoil is various, the hilly parts leſs fruitful than the others; the vales, eſpecially in that part of the county called the Weald, are dirty but very fertile. On the ſea-coaſt are very green hills, called the South Downs, well known to travellers for their beautiful proſpect, but better to thoſe who deal in wool or ſheep, there being great numbers bred here, whoſe wool, which is very fine, is too often exported clandeſtinely to France. The middle part of the county is delightfully chequered with meadows, paſtures, groves, and corn-fields, which produce great quantities of wheat and barley. The north quarter is ſhaded with woods, from whence great quantities of excellent timber are carried to the dock-yards, and of charcoal to the iron-works, in the eaſtern part of the county.—The principal rivers are the *Arun*, the *Adur*, the *Ouſe*, and the *Rother*. Other leſs conſiderable rivers in this county are the *Lavant*, the *Cuckmeer*, the *Aſhburn*, and the *Aſten*. Suſſex lies in the province of Canterbury, and dioceſe of Chicheſter.

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OXFORDSHIRE is bounded on the eaſt by Buckinghamſhire; on the weſt by Glouceſterſhire; on the north by Northamptonſhire and Warwickſhire; and on the ſouth by Berkſhire. It is about forty-two miles in length, twenty-ſix in breadth, and one hundred and thirty in circumference; and contains one city, fifteen market-towns, two hundred and eighty pariſhes, fourteen hundreds, and about five hundred and thirty-four thouſand acres.

The air of Oxfordſhire is as good as that of any other county in England; for the ſoil is naturally dry, free from bogs, fens and ſtagnant waters, and abounding with quick limpid ſtreams, that neceſſarily render the air ſweet and healthy. The ſoil is in general very fertile, both for corn and graſs; but there is a great variety in it, and conſequently ſeveral degrees of fruitfulneſs. There is plenty of river fiſh here, of various kinds, The productions of this county are cattle, fruit, free-ſtone, and ſeveral ſorts of earth uſed in medicine, dying, and ſcouring; but it is thinly ſtrewed with wood, and fuel is conſequently very ſcarce. The principal rivers of this county are the Thames or Iſis, the Evenlode, the Windruſh, the Tame, and the Charwell. This county lies in the province of Canterbury, and dioceſe of Oxford.

BEDFORDSHIRE is bounded on the ſouth by Hertfordſhire; on the north by Northamptonſhire and Huntingdonſhire; on the eaſt by Cambridgeſhire; and on the weſt by Buckingſhire. It is about twenty-two miles in length, fifteen in breadth, and ſeventy-three in circumference. It contains nine hundreds, ten market-towns, and one hundred and twenty four pariſhes, five hundred and fifty villages, and about two hundred and ſixty thouſand acres. This county, on the north ſide of the river Ouſe is fruitful and woody, on the ſouth ſide it is leſs fertile. It produces wheat and barley in great abundance, and of an excellent kind, and it has foreſts and parks well ſtocked with deer, and fat paſtures with cattle. The air is pure and healthful, and the ſoil in general a deep clay. The principal rivers of this county are the Ouſe and the Iwell. It lies in the province of Canterbury and dioceſe of Lincoln.

THE END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.